

Soweto rally attacked; 2 killed

CAPE TOWN (R) — Attackers lobbed hand grenades at blacks attending a political rally in Soweto Sunday, killing two people and wounding more than 30, police and witnesses said. The attack at South Africa's biggest township came amid an upsurge of weekend violence. Five blacks were killed in shanty-town battles in Natal province and blacks burned a 70-year-old white farmer to death near Johannesburg. Witnesses said two hand grenades were thrown from behind a house into a crowd of more than 100 people at the open-air rally in Soweto, a sprawling township near Johannesburg. The rally, in the township's Orlando West area, was held by a conservative Soweto political party called "Sofosone," a Zulu word meaning "we will die together." The Sofosone party, headed by former Soweto Mayor Ephraim Tshabalala, is opposed by young black militants because it took part in Pretoria-sponsored black municipal elections. Sunday's death toll in the fear-ridden townships around the Natal capital of Pietermaritzburg was one of the highest since police reinforcements were sent in last January to stop black-against-black fighting.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي.

Volume 13 Number 3786

AMMAN MONDAY MAY 23, 1988, SHAWWAL 8, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

King sends good wishes to W. Germany

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable to West German President Richard von Weizsacker congratulating him on his country's National Day and wishing him continued good health and happiness and wishing the West German people further progress and prosperity.

Holiday declared

AMMAN (Petra) — Wednesday, May 25, will be observed as a public holiday in Jordan and all government departments and public institutions will be closed to mark the Kingdom's Independence Day, according to an official communique issued by the Prime Ministry Sunday. Press reports said earlier that the two interchanges at the Interior Ministry and the Sports City would be formally opened for traffic on Independence Day at a ceremony to be held under royal patronage. Municipal teams are reported hard at work preparing for the inauguration, according to Al Rai Arabic daily.

Resistance reports anti-SLA attack

BEIRUT (R) — Resistance fighters said they killed or wounded 15 members of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) Sunday in three raids on SLA posts. A statement by the Islamic Resistance, grouping Hizbollah (Party of God) and other factions, said the attacks were launched inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon. It said one of its own fighters was killed, during the exchange of machinegun fire and rocket-propelled grenades.

Walters in Kuwait

KUWAIT (AP) — The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, arrived Sunday to sound out Kuwaiti officials on the best ways of implementing U.N. calls for a ceasefire in the Gulf war, informed sources said. The sources said the Iran-Iraq war along with the latest Middle East peace moves by Washington would top the talks. Walters arrived here from Iraq.

Khartoum suffers bread shortage

KHARTOUM (R) — Wheat rationing has been imposed in Khartoum to combat severe shortages of bread, the official Sudan News Agency reported Sunday. The agency quoted an official source as saying the Sudanese capital was short of 6,000 to 7,000 bags of wheat flour a day, representing about half its normal bread consumption. The source blamed the crisis on inadequate transport to bring flour from Port Sudan, the country's only major port.

War corpses wash up on Kuwaiti shores

KUWAIT (R) — Bodies of Iraqis killed in Gulf war fighting last month have washed up along the southern Kuwaiti coast, Kuwaiti newspapers reported Sunday. Photographs distributed by the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) showed bodies on the beach near Ras Al Zaur, 80 kilometres south of Kuwait City. The papers quoted Iraqi reports as saying the bodies were those of Iranian Revolutionary guards killed during Iraq's successful bid last month to recapture the Fao Peninsula 130 kilometres northeast of Ras Al Zaur.

Algeria, Morocco appoint ambassadors

RABAT (R) — Algeria and Morocco Sunday named the first ambassadors to be exchanged after a 12-year diplomatic rift. Officials said Dr. Abdul Latif Berbiach, a cardiologist and secretary of the Moroccan royal academy, will be Moroccan ambassador in Algiers. Berbiach, who is not a career diplomat, is a close personal friend of King Hassan of Morocco. The Algerian envoy will be Abdul Hamid Mehri, a career diplomat who has represented Algeria in France.

3 more Arabs killed in W. Bank flare-up

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian woman and her son were burned to death Sunday when their car exploded in unclear circumstances and a third Palestinian died after a clash with Israeli soldiers.

It was the deadliest day in nearly three weeks in the occupied territories where the Palestinians have staged a violent uprising against Israeli rule since Dec. 8. The fatalities brought to 194 the number of Palestinians killed in the uprising.

Three other confrontations left three Palestinian teenagers wounded by army gunfire and an Israeli man seriously injured by burns suffered in a firebombing, hospital and military officials said.

Shamseh Al Kadhah, 65, and her son Mohammad Salah Ghanem, 36, died when their car blew up at the entrance to Shuweika, a village of 1,500 Palestinians about 100 kilometres northwest of Jerusalem, hospital officials and witnesses said.

Both Israel Radio and an official at Israel's Abu Kabir pathological institute where the bodies were taken for autopsies reported the early morning explosion was caused by a firebomb.

Villagers and military sources said the firebomb appeared to have been aimed at an Israeli army jeep traveling in front of the Palestinian-owned automobile. Other reports said Israeli soldiers had opened fire at the car.

Piles of black ashes, a dead pigeon, a woman's slipper and metal debris from the automobile were scattered up to 15 metres from the site of the car fire at the entrance to Shuweika.

Villagers in Shuweika said the incident occurred several hours after soldiers detained Palestinian men and boys in a schoolyard for up to four hours to check identity cards.

In nearby Tulkarem, about five kilometres south of Shuweika, Israeli soldiers clashed Saturday with protesters at a refugee camp, wounding a 23-year-old woman in the chest.

Kawther Miri died Sunday of her wounds, said an official at Rafidiyah hospital in Nablus. Soldiers clamped a curfew on the camp, an army spokesman said.

In other weekend clashes, an Israeli man suffered serious burns when his car was hit by a firebomb as he drove through the West Bank city of Jenicho, the army said.

Violence also broke out in the West Bank's largest city of Nablus, 60 kilometres north of Jerusalem. Soldiers shot and wounded two 19-year-old Palestinians.

(Continued on page 5)

Syria, Iran finalise plans for troop deployment in s. Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syrian and Iranian negotiators finalised plans Sunday for 7,000 Syrian troops to move into Beirut's southern suburbs to halt 16 days of bloody street battles, pro-Syrian sources said.

"Syria is carrying out consultations with other regional and international powers on the final touches of the deployment before ordering its troops in," one source told Reuters.

"It is a calculated deployment, which both Syria and Iran want to be carried out with the least losses and casualties."

"They are discussing every single step to spare more bloodshed and avoid a military confrontation with Iran's allies in Lebanon," the source added.

The talks coincided with the first full in fighting between militiamen of the Syrian-backed Amal and the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God). Battles for control of the slum district have killed 260 people.

Residents emerged into the sunlight after days huddled in underground shelters to escape artillery, mortar and rocket fire.

Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual mentor of Hizbollah, told the independent

Al Anwar newspaper: "The doors of the southern suburbs are open for the Syrian troops and there is no intention to fight them."

He said the disarming of militiamen in the suburbs should be the first stage of a plan to disarm other militias in Lebanon.

Hizbollah pitted about 2,000 fighters against 1,500 Amal militiamen and gained control of about 80 per cent of the area during the fighting which began May 6.

Syrian troops, backed by tanks and armoured personnel carriers, are ringing the slums, where some of the 22 foreigners missing in Lebanon are thought to be held hostage.

No Noriega deal yet, but drug charges may be dropped

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration said Sunday it had not yet struck a deal to force Panama's strongman Manuel Antonio Noriega from power but made clear it might drop drug charges against him to secure that objective.

"We have had a lot of discussion with him and we have not concluded any agreement," Secretary of State George Shultz said in a television interview.

Shultz said it would be desirable to bring Noriega to the United States to stand trial on drug trafficking charges but said the administration did not have the power to extradite him from Panama.

"So you ask yourself: which situation are we better off in? To have Noriega in charge in Panama, and us with an indictment that we can't do much about but are nevertheless holding on to?" Shultz asked.

"Or having Noriega giving up power in Panama and leaving Panama but also, having paid that penalty, not having the indictment hanging over his head?" he said.

"Now there are very important arguments to be made on all sides of that issue. There is a real judgment to be made, and it is a difficult judgment," Shultz said.

President Reagan's national security adviser, Lieutenant General Colin Powell, said the central feature of the deal the administration wants would be Noriega's ouster as head of Panama's defence forces and de facto ruler.

"Over the past several months, we have been able to put together a deal which would require General Noriega to step down from power. He would then leave the country for a period of time," Powell said in a television interview.

Reagan, Powell, Shultz, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Webster and other high-ranking officials met at the White House Saturday to hear a report from the U.S. negotiator in the secret talks aimed at ousting Noriega.

The agreement affirms the right of the Syrian forces to implement any military act that is deemed suitable if the safety of Syrian forces or the safety of citizens in the suburbs is threatened.

A side street parallel to the home of Fadlallah would remain closed for security necessities in line with the situation around the home of Amal leader Nabih Berri in west Beirut.

Gorbachev implied that he was willing to meet Reagan in a fifth summit to sign a new strategic arms control agreement even if it had to be left to Reagan's successor to send to the Senate for ratification.

The Soviet leader said he was ready to continue the new era of "very productive dialogue," with the next U.S. president.

"Why shouldn't we try to work together?" Gorbachev asked. "We have great experience, you have great experience — let us cooperate to master the cosmos, to fulfill big programmes."

Gorbachev said that as a result of a joint project to study Halley's Comet, the superpowers had been able to develop dozens of new materials and make major advances in electronics and in mathematics.

"We are going to invite the president," Gorbachev said, holding up a model of a Soviet rocket, "to cooperate on a flight to Mars."

During the wide-ranging interview, the Soviet leader acknowledged his political and economic reforms were facing "more difficulties than before." But he said people took a more intense interest in seeing "an end to stagnation, and end to apathy."

Gorbachev said the leader who promotes an escalation of the arms race in space "is committing a crime against the people — his own people, and others. That must be said with all responsibility and with clarity."

Gorbachev said he favoured fixing terms for senior Soviet Communist Party officials, including his own post as general secretary.



Alexander Zinchuk
By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The conflicts of the Middle East are expected to assume a "high and prominent place" on the agenda of the May 29 - June 2 superpower summit in Moscow and special emphasis will be given to the proposed Middle

Iraq says Iranian F-14, helicopter shot down

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said it shot down an Iranian F-14 fighter-bomber and a helicopter Sunday in separate dogfights over the Gulf and the northern waterfront.

The daily high command communique said Iraqi planes intercepted the U.S.-made jet over the Gulf and downed it at noon. It said the Iranian plane exploded and fell into the sea in burning fragments.

Iraqi helicopter gunships spotted two Iranian Bell helicopters over the northern war zone, the communique said. One was shot down and crashed in flames "in enemy territory" while the other fled.

Iraqi planes flew 76 sorties against Iranian military positions Sunday and all returned safely to base, the statement said.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said Sunday an Iraqi warplane flying over the Iranian town of Ilam, 200 kilometres east of Baghdad and 30 kilometres inside the border was driven off by heavy ground-to-air fire.

Two held after U.N. soldiers shot in Cyprus

NICOSIA (Agencies) — North Cypriot police arrested two men Sunday following the shooting of two Austrian soldiers of the United Nations force in Cyprus (Unficyp), the semi-official Turkish Cypriot news agency TAK said.

They were relatives of Moustafa Hussein Kaffa, a Turkish Cypriot killed Saturday in the U.N.-controlled buffer zone village of Pyla in a shoot-out with an Austrian lieutenant.

TAK named the two arrested men as Kaffa's son, Cemal Kafa Gursel, and his son-in-law, Ali Bazazi.

U.N. spokesman Charles Gaulkin said Kaffa had repeatedly caused problems for Unficyp personnel in Pyla, 40 kilometres southeast of Nicosia.

It is the only inhabited village in the 180-kilometre buffer zone separating the Greek Cypriot controlled south from the self-declared Turkish republic of north Cyprus. Greek and Turkish Cypriots live side-by-side.

Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash said Sunday the future of the Unficyp had been thrown into question by the killing.

Denkash said the shooting followed several weeks of harassment of Kaffa by Austrian soldiers in the peace-keeping force.

But a U.N. spokesman said Kaffa was shot in self-defence after he opened fire and seriously wounded an Austrian lieutenant who went to question him.

Denkash, president of the breakaway republic, told reporters: "U.N. persecution of this man because of 'unruly conduct' cannot be justified and has led to this tragic event."

But he said the subsequent shooting of an Austrian soldier at a camp near Famagusta in north Cyprus was "insane." He noted that north Cyprus police had arrested Kaffa's son and son-in-law for the attack.

The two Austrians were the first U.N. men to be shot in Cyprus since Turkish troops took control of the northern third of the island in 1974 after a short-lived coup in Nicosia by the Greek military junta then ruling Greece.

The commander of the U.N. force, General Gunther Greindl, told reporters: "This is a very isolated incident and we don't want to do anything to poison the atmosphere."

Speaking after meeting Denkash and agreeing to a joint inquiry into the two shootings, Greindl said U.N. soldiers had been removed from dangerously exposed positions in north Cyprus.

Qadhafi visits Tunisia before OAU summit

LIBYA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi arrived in Tunisia Sunday in an apparent bid to push for expanded regional cooperation and enlist support on Chad before this week's Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit. Qadhafi's hastily-arranged visit seemed to be an attempt to build on last week's rapprochement between Algeria and Morocco. The resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries, at odds over the 12-year Western Sahara war, revived hopes of wider regional cooperation in a historically turbulent region. Libya's assistance on doing away with national frontiers as part of Qadhafi's vision of all-embracing Arab unity has been a stumbling block for attempts this year to include Tripoli in a 1983 pact linking Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania. Qadhafi and Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali, whose own countries resumed ties in December after a two-year break, were meeting amid tight security in a tourist hotel. The Libyan leader raised his clenched fist to salute waiting crowds as he walked to the hotel on this holiday island.

Zinchuk: Mideast figures high on superpower summit agenda

East peace conference, Soviet Ambassador to Jordan Alexander Zinchuk said Sunday.

At a press conference held at the Soviet embassy, Zinchuk noted that the United States, which had always "adamantly" rejected the idea of an international peace conference, now accepts the proposal but Moscow and Washington remain divided on the effectiveness and authorities of such a forum. The basic change in the U.S. attitude, Zinchuk said, was a result of combined Arab efforts spearheaded by Jordan and pressure from the Soviet Union.

"The United States is now willing to accept the idea of an

international peace conference, but only as a cocktail party with no authoritative power," Zinchuk said.

Zinchuk reiterated the Soviet position that the conference should be "comprehensive and effective" and based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Zinchuk said the Soviet Union would not resume diplomatic ties with Israel until the Zionist state agrees to attend an effective peace conference aimed at secur-

ing Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and allowing Palestinians to exercise their legitimate rights. The conference should not be just "an umbrella for bilateral talks," he said.

Zinchuk said that while the Soviet Union insists on an "effective" peace conference, it does not call for one which would dictate or impose any solution on the parties of the conflict. The conference should allow all the parties to "express their point of view in a positive manner which would help constructive development in peace talks," he said.

(Continued on page 5)

Omanis shoo off Iranian navy

DUBAI (Agencies) — Oman's coast guard warned the Iranian navy to stay out of Omani waters Sunday as Tehran's forces began naval exercises near the Strait of Hormuz, shipping sources said.

The coast guard also advised all unescorted tankers to stay clear of the narrow strait between Iran and Oman to avoid Iranian gunboats, which last week attacked two tankers.

"All unescorted tankers in the area must take all necessary precautions as Iranian gunboats are in the area," said the message, monitored on maritime radio, according to Reuters.

The sources quoted the coast guard message to Iranian ships as saying that unless they left Omani waters, Oman would file a diplomatic complaint. The sources did not know how many Iranian vessels were involved.

Oman has broadcast similar warnings to Iranian vessels in the past two weeks, but the sources said this was the first time it was heard telling tankers to stay clear.

Tensions rose sharply in the Gulf after the United States, whose fleet mauled Iran's navy in a battle April 18, said April 29 it would defend neutral ships if they came under attack.

In defiance of the warning, Iranian speedboats ambushed two tankers, the Japanese-owned

Ace Chemi and the Norwegian-flag Berge Strand, in a 24-hour period in the southern Gulf last week.

U.S. warships were too far away to intervene, but shipping sources said several were spotted heading for the Strait of Hormuz Friday. They did not know if American warships were monitoring the Iranian naval manoeuvres.

But one source said: "It's pretty tense out there, anything could happen."

Iran's IRNA news agency reported that its armed forces began amphibious and air-sea exercises in Iran's territorial waters in the Gulf of Oman Sunday to test their battle readiness.

Iran's war spokesman, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said Friday that the United States had

entered into a war with Iran. The exercises, due to last for several days, were first announced earlier this month.

Tehran Radio said "helicopters, air force fighter planes and the airborne brigade of the army" also were participating in the exercises.

The report appeared to indicate that virtually all of Iran's biggest naval vessels were involved in exercises.

A war communique quoted by the official Islamic Republic News Agency of Iran did not mention naval manoeuvres but said Iranian air force planes flew "routine patrol missions" over the Gulf and the Gulf of Oman "in support of the navy, reconnoitering 21 vessels in the waterway."

Mubarak in Sanaa after talks with Prince Nayef

SANAA (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived Sunday on his first visit to North Yemen since the resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries after an eight-year interruption.

The Egyptian leader, whose country helped Yemen with arms and troops in a 1961-68 civil war that consolidated the republican government, will hold talks with President Ali Abdullah Saleh during his two-day stay en route to Ethiopia and participation in the pan-African summit conference opening in Addis Ababa.

Cairo's state-run Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Mubarak and Saleh were expected to discuss bilateral relations, regional issues and the forthcoming Arab League summit conference scheduled for June 7 in Algeria.

In scene-setting statements on the eve of Mubarak's arrival, North Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Irani stressed bilateral relations and security of the Red Sea.

"The importance of the Red Sea is increasing in an urgent manner especially after many oil producing states in the region

have turned to use it for oil going through the Suez Canal or Bab Al Mandeb," he said.

"The littoral states must coordinate defence of the safety and security of the Red Sea, and Yemen and Egypt must exert efforts to keep the Red Sea away from becoming an arena for international conflict among the superpowers."

Mubarak flew to Sanaa after hearing a pledge by a Saudi Arabian minister that pilgrims to Mecca and Medina this year would be safe.

Mubarak had talks with Saudi Arabian Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz, who gave him a verbal message from King Fahd.

Prince Nayef told reporters Mubarak reaffirmed his support for Saudi Arabia's decision last month to break relations with Iran after disputes over the number of Iranians to be allowed into Saudi Arabia for this year's pilgrimage.

More than 400 people, mostly Iranians, were killed during clashes in Mecca last year following demonstrations by Iranian pilgrims.

Kadar makes sad exit from Hungary's leadership

BUDAPEST (Agencies) — His eyes wet with emotion, veteran Hungarian leader Janos Kadar attacked reform ideas, pessimism and political egoism Sunday in a rambling and self-justifying valedictory speech.

Although he did not confirm his imminent departure as Communist Party chief, it was an open secret that the man who has led Hungary since the anti-communist uprising of 1956 will "fall upwards" to a powerless honorary post at a closed-door party conference session Sunday evening.

His successor as general secretary will be the energetic and pragmatic Prime Minister Karoly Grosz, at 57 a man of the Gorbachev mould and generation who is an avowed admirer of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

"We have to get used to a new kind of thinking," Kadar admitted, in a directionless 80-minute

speech which drew blank stares and impatience from delegates on the floor and paper-rustling from the podium.

But he defended his long-practised policies of compromise, attacked conference proposals for greater openness in party affairs and said more emphasis should be put on achievements than on mistakes.

Although Kadar led Hungary through a series of reforms unparalleled in Eastern Europe in the 1960s and 1970s, he is now seen as responsible for expensive mistakes in the 1980s.

Reflation policies launched in 1985 have gone badly wrong, and Hungary is now struggling with surging prices, a severe current account deficit and Eastern Europe's highest per capita debt.

Kadar, who will be 76 Thursday after wielding almost absolute power for more than 31 years, admitted there had been "leadership problems."

2 National News

Caring for the handicapped in Gaza

"THE IMAGE of the mentally handicapped has improved... Once, the school's teachers were embarrassed to tell others where they worked; now, the centre has one of the highest application rates for jobs throughout Gaza." These words come from a 1985 report prepared by the Society for the Care of Handicapped Children in Gaza, which runs the Sun Day Care Centre.

They are an indication of the progress that has been made in overcoming obstacles like social attitudes to the mentally and physically handicapped, since the society was established in 1975 as a charity under Ottoman law.

In developing countries, the handicapped do not usually receive the attention they need, and mental and physical problems are still seen as a source of shame and embarrassment.

Under the present conditions in Gaza, one would have expected the handicapped to suffer further neglect, given the magnitude of the problems caused by the occupation of the strip since 1967.

However, the Society for the Care of Handicapped Children has not only been able to rouse public concern and action, it has also been able to identify the dimensions and scale of the problem, and to set up centres for education and training.

According to estimates based on research and field work in the early 1980s by a visiting Canadian expert, Dr. Alfred Neufeldt, and the society's Chairman Dr. Hatem Abu Ghazaleh, there may be as many as 12,000 children and 11,250 adults over the age of 20 who require special support in Gaza.

The estimated that, of the number of handicapped children, 1,600 suffered moderate to profound degrees of handicap, and another 6,000 were mildly handicapped; the rest were slower than normal and needed special educational help because of disadvantaged backgrounds.

In 1984 and 1985, the society

undertook a comprehensive survey of Gaza households to arrive at an exact figure of the number of handicapped, and to establish the extent to which environmental factors affected the incidence of handicap.

Shacks transformed

When the society's Sun Day Care Centre was inaugurated in 1976, it was only able to care for 14 mentally handicapped children.

The centre consisted of an unused shack that had been converted into small classrooms.

Today, the centre cares for close to 100 children and adolescents, and many of its facilities are housed in new buildings that were erected with help from international development agencies and charities, and several Palestinian philanthropists.

The dedication of the staff to the society's aims, and the support of agencies and individuals from Canada, the U.S. and Europe, have enabled the society to develop a complex network of operations based on the centre and reaching out to the community at large.

At the centre itself, the children receive education, training, counselling — and breakfast and a hot lunch.

Their day begins with a physical training session, and simple exercises such as jumping, hopping and arm circles, to help improve coordination and motor ability.

There is a gymnasium where students take part in further activities to improve their motor skills (they may not be able to walk or run properly), and exercises are made more difficult as the students improve.

The students are also given regular instruction in reading and writing, and other skills such as arithmetic.

Vocational training is a major part of the curriculum, and there are workshops for boys and girls.

The boys learn to make bam-

boo furniture, woodwork, baskets and cushions, and the girls learn sewing, knitting, crochet and embroidery.

Other training prepares the students for eventual employment, in fields such as gardening and building maintenance.

The centre houses a library, and there are rooms where teachers can prepare materials and learn how to use teaching aids.

Of the 97 children enrolled at the centre in 1985, 55 had been there for some three years. Five had found employment in the community, and three had been hired by the school itself in domestic and maintenance positions.

The placement of students in paid employment was still small, according to centre staff, because so many were still young; it was hoped that more would eventually find employment in the community.

In spite of its success, the society is acutely conscious that there is a waiting list of over 450 children that the centre has no room for, and that its services are stretched to the limit.

Out-reach programmes

The space limitations are partly due to the restrictions on expansion imposed by the authorities.

In any case, it is important to care for the handicapped in their own communities, as research has shown that this improves their progress.

Thus, the society's long term aim is to turn the centre into a model school and a resource centre for the region, and to develop out-reach programmes for the handicapped.

At the moment, the society has two major out-reach programmes.

The first is a Mothers' Home Training/Early Intervention Programme. This involves teachers in reaching the handicapped at early ages, and training their families in ways of caring

for them and of maximising their abilities.

An American academic and expert in the care of handicapped, Dr. David Shearer, visited Gaza in 1983 to lay the groundwork for the programme.

Members of the centre's staff were sent to the United States and Canada for training, so that they, in turn, trained the "home educators." The home educators, who were high school graduates, trained mothers with handicapped children, and the children themselves.

By 1985, the Mothers' Home Training programme had about 20 teachers, each of whom served an average of 18 children and families; the total number of handicapped children reached was 325, and their ages ranged from a few months to 8 years old.

The consultant who established the programme returned to assess its progress, and was impressed by the teachers' enthusiasm.

He saw "clusters of teachers scattered throughout the offices (at the centre) discussing specific problems that a particular teacher may be having."

The home teachers, all women who lived in the communities they served, kept detailed records on the progress of the children and their families.

The consultant also observed the commitment of the families to making use of the new opportunities that had been made available to their handicapped children.

Of a total of 6,460 planned visits during the period the consultant reviewed, 92% were in fact carried out.

Visits were only missed when the family faced emergencies or serious problems, and not because of laxness on the part of the parents.

Other consultants invited to assess the programme made suggestions for some improvements in training and for involving medical practitioners, but were also impressed with the progress of the programme and its benefit to the community.



Handicapped children in Gaza begin their day with a physical training session. (Insert) Handicapped boy receives vocational training (Tammiya photos)

Special classes in normal schools

The society's second out-reach programme involves the construction of special classroom units for handicapped children in already-existing, normal schools in the region.

It has been established that handicapped children progress more quickly when they grow up alongside normal children.

Further, building special classrooms for the handicapped in schools throughout the region would enable them to receive special care and attention close to their home communities.

It would also teach children who did not suffer from handicaps to understand the problems faced by their less fortunate schoolmates and to accommodate them in the community.

The society is already supervising the construction of a pilot 2-classroom unit in a school in Beach Camp. Each classroom can accommodate 10 students, and there will be toilet and other facilities suitable for wheelchair use.

Once the results of the pilot classroom project have been assessed, there are plans for units in schools throughout the region. The society also has plans for vocational out-reach programmes.

The society's future plans include setting up a diagnostic and counselling centre which would house physicians, physiotherapists, speech therapists, and other medical personnel. It would also provide counselling on family intermarriage and environmental hazards that can result in mental or physical handicaps. The society also has plans for a recreation and leisure centre, and a programme for severely handicapped children.

It is seeking to promote further awareness in the community of issues concerning the handicapped, through parents' discussion groups and other activities — Tammiya.



SHOMAN EXHIBITION: A painting exhibition by Suha Shoman entitled the Legend of Petra was opened Sunday at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman under the patronage of Her Highness Princess Fakhruunnisa Zaid. The exhibition will last until June 2, and its proceeds will benefit the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

Computers move into West Bank schools

A PROGRAMME to introduce computers into West Bank schools was initiated in 1985, and, if all goes well, there should be 18 computer centres serving between two and three schools each by 1991.

The programme is being supervised by the Birzeit University Computers in Schools Committee. The Committee includes a group of concerned academics who had noted both the dearth of modern facilities in West Bank schools, and the lack of proper planning and supervision in those schools that had been able to afford the cost of buying and installing computers.

Before launching a full-scale programme, the Committee carried out a pilot project to test out such factors as student response, teacher preparedness and materials. Funding for the programme was made available locally — with schools covering the cost of stationery, space and teachers' salaries — and through donations from European development agencies, which were used to purchase the computers and associated materials.

The schools chosen as centres for the trial period were based in Ramallah (a coeducational school was chosen as centre, and it served a neighbouring boys' school), in Beit Hanina (serving two girls' schools), and in Jerusalem (serving one boys' school and two girls' schools).

In making its selection, the Committee wanted to avoid widening the technology gap between schools and to make computers available on a fair region-wide basis. It also sought to encourage academic cooperation between schools, and to encourage student participation.

After studying several bids for hardware, the Committee selected the Televideo PC micro-computer, and 40 sets were purchased and installed in the

schools serving as centres. Four teachers were hired, and the courses began in selected classrooms, with a maximum of two students per computer.

At the end of the ten-week trial period in May 1986, an assessment of the programme was made, based on supervisors' and teachers' reports, as well as questionnaires given to the participating students. By the end of the trial period, 609 students had taken 156 hours of theory and 370 hours of practice in simple computer languages and programming.

Based on that experience, computer courses were introduced in the 1986-87 school-year to all students in the first preparatory classes, with the aim of adding a level each year for five years. Computer studies were treated as an integral part of the syllabus, and grades were given (a fact

which greatly increased the students' powers of concentration, the Committee noted). In all, 723 students were to take part at the six schools.

First preparatory students used the book "An introduction to computers" prepared by Committee members and teachers. Students at higher levels were given worksheets, which would later be used as the bases of books for the higher levels. The programme coordinators were also studying the suitability of an Arabic-language programme to be introduced alongside the English language ones.

The Committee noted that there were no problems between participating schools — quite the contrary: Schools at which the computers were centred often offered to stay open after hours to accommodate classes from participating schools, as well as on holidays and at weekends. — Tammiya

schools serving as centres. Four teachers were hired, and the courses began in selected classrooms, with a maximum of two students per computer.

At the end of the ten-week trial period in May 1986, an assessment of the programme was made, based on supervisors' and teachers' reports, as well as questionnaires given to the participating students. By the end of the trial period, 609 students had taken 156 hours of theory and 370 hours of practice in simple computer languages and programming.

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TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:30 Programme review
16:00 Cartoons
16:40 Al Manahel (children's educational programmes)
17:05 Cartoons
17:25 Educational programme
18:00 Local series
19:00 Our Army
19:35 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Live transmission - Football
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Arabic play

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Un Cateau Au Soleil
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine (French)
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:50 News in Arabic
20:30 Perfect Strangers
21:00 Masterworks
21:10 Secret Army
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "The Hiredling"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
and partly on 96.0 KHz. SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Just a Minute
11:00 Good Vibrations
11:30 Readings
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Special Feature
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instruments
16:05 Old Favourites
17:00 Young Sound
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Roundup
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
22:00 News Summary
22:05 Evening Show Continued

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.

★ Art exhibition by George Kaplanian at the Goethe Institute.

★ Plastic art exhibition by Ghada Dahdahl at Petra Art Gallery.

★ Art and handicraft exhibition at Rosary College, Jabal Amman.

★ Compositions Florales at 6:00 p.m., French Cultural Centre.

FEATURE FILM

★ The Magnificent Ambassadors* at 7:00 p.m., American Centre.

CHURCHES

Royal Cultural Centre ... Tel. 6610267
American Centre ... 644371
American Centre library ... 641520
British Council ... 6501478
French Cultural Centre ... 637009
Goethe Institute ... 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre ... 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre ... 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre ... 639777
Haya Arts Centre ... 667810
Y.W.C.A. ... 641793
Y.W.C.A. ... 642551
Amman Municipal Library ... 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library ... 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00

a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweidbeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630122.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 644240.

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Hussein, Tel. 624902.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luweidbeh. Tel. 637441.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Hussein, Tel. 601757.

Terrassanta Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luweidbeh. Mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel: 622366.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali. Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabal Amman. Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601359.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyan. Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) (Amman, Arabic Bible Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Sme 811285.

Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Inter-denominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605, Rev. Veli.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) Tel. 815817, 821264.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 533045, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Aqaba (RJ)
10:20 Larnaca (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:30 Damascus (RJ)
10:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:40 Sana'a, Jeddah (RJ)
10:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
11:45 Doha, Kuwait (RJ)
15:15 Helsinki (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:55 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19:45 Bangkok (RJ)
00:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

10:30 Sana'a (LH)
10:35 Cairo (MS)
13:00 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
13:20 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
00:30 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

02:30 Helsinki (RJ)
08:00 Aqaba (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30 Paris (RJ)
12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
20:35 Kuwait (KU)
20:50 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:55 Baghdad (RJ)
21:00 Jeddah (RJ)
21:15 Cairo (RJ)
21:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
09:15 Beirut (MEA)
11:10 Frankfurt (LH)
11:20 Cairo (MS)
14:00 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
14:30 Bahrain (GF)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
01:30 Paris (AF)

PRAYER TIMES

03:54 Fajr
05:27 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:32 Dhuhr
16:15 Asr
19:38 Maghreb
21:11 Isha

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

The weather is expected to be fairly sunny and fine with north-westerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, the winds will be north-easterly moderate and calm seas.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc (for 100) 96.1 / 99.4
Dutch guilder 178.4 / 185
French franc 99.2 / 101.3
Italian lira (for 100) 271 / 274.9
Japanese yen (for 100) 273.2 / 283.1
Swedish crown 57.6 / 59.6
Swiss franc 240.1 / 249.1
U.K. sterling pound 64.8 / 67.6
U.S. dollar 340.9 / 352.5
W. German mark 200.1 / 207.2

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman government 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 190
Civil Defence Irbid 271243, 273131
Civil Defence Quesmech 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57806
Ambulance 192, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 620341
Blood Bank 778303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 822900.3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 896300/1
Electric Power Co. 63831/4, 638481
Municipal water complaints 7711258
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08)533300

HOSPITALS

Husein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Akil Maternity, J. Amn. 642411/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmashan 664171/4
Shmashan Hospital 845845
University Hospital 96727/9
The Islamic, Abdali 66127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 66104/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/28
Army, Marka 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/9
Amal Hospital 674155

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.
Apple (French) 400 / 360
Apple (green) 450 / 400
Apple (Lebanese) 300 / 250
Banana (Mekammar) 270 / 220
Beans 180 / 140
Beans (broad) 130 / 100
Cabbage 160 / 120
Carrot 140 / 100
Cauliflower 180 / 140
Cherry (green) 1000 / 800
Cucumbers 150 / 100
Dates (2 kgs) 550 / 500
Eggplant (large) 90 / 50
Eggplant (small) 110 / 70
Garlic (green) 180 / 140
Lemon 300 / 250
Mallow 130 / 100
Marrow 150 / 100
Onion (green) 140 / 100
Onion (dry) 80 / 50
Oranges (local) 200 / 150
Peas 650 / 550
Peas 140 / 100
Pepper (hot) 200 / 150
Pepper (sweet) 160 / 120
Potato 150 / 100
Radish 650 / 500
Strawberry 90 / 60
Tomatoes 320 / 240
Watermelon 140 / 100
Sweetmelon 200 / 150

Queen Noor visits Wadi Rum

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday visited Wadi Rum in the southern regions of the Kingdom.

Accompanied by Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni and the President of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Anis Muasher, the Queen inspected areas which would be developed to attract tourists, and discussed facilities and utilities that should be introduced for achieving that goal.

Ajlouni stated later that the Ministry of Tourism will carry out studies on the Wadi Rum region to help stimulate tourist visits and to introduce facilities that can help achieve that purpose.

Ajlouni Saturday accompanied Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri on a visit to the home of Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali, the leader of the Great Arab Revolt and inspected restoration work carried out by specialists to transform the home into a national museum.

Ajlouni said that a team from the Ministries of Tourism and Culture and National Heritage as well as the Aqaba Region Authority (ARA) carried out the restoration work at the home in the southern parts of the country.

ARA Director Bassam Qaqish, who accompanied the two ministers on the inspection tour, said that a local engineering office has laid down designs to improve the yard in front of the old home providing for a small theatre to be set up there for cultural activities, together with other services.

ARA has allocated JD 200,000 for the project which is being carried out in stages. Qaqish said in an interview with Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The two ministers also inspected the historic Aqaba Fort.



Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin receives U.N. human rights team in Amman Sunday (Petra photo)

Dudin, U.N. rights team discuss situation in occupied territories

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — A three-member United Nations human rights team now on a visit to Jordan Sunday met with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin with whom they reviewed the general situation in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Dudin spoke in length about Israel's practices and human rights violations and the serious consequences on the Palestinian people in the occupied regions.

Since June 1967, the Israelis have seized 2,756,076 dunums of Arab land in the West Bank and nearly 30 per cent of the total area of the Gaza Strip for setting up Jewish settlements, the minister noted.

He said that so far, 190 Jewish settlements have been set up in the Arab territory housing 58,000

Jewish settlers.

So far, Israel has spent \$20 billion on setting up these settlements on land occupied since 1967, Dudin pointed out.

Referring to Arab detainees in Israeli jails the minister said that their number now stands at 15,000, mostly arrested in the current uprising.

Since 1987 Israel has demolished 178 Arab homes under various pretexts, and has violated the sanctity of educational institutions such as schools and universities, many of which had been closed on several occasions, the minister added.

Dudin submitted a report to the team of Israel's various human rights violations in the occupied territories between June 1987 and until last month.

The team, led by Sri Lanka's U.N. Ambassador Daya Pereira, met Saturday with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who said that the uprising was a natural reaction to Israel's 20 years of occupation and oppression.

He told the team about Israel's arbitrary measures and reviewed the living conditions of Palestinians in the Israeli occupied territories.

The panel will report to the U.N. General Assembly on their findings in the region.

Amman is the first stop in the team's current Middle East tour which will also take them to Egypt and Syria. Israel has refused to allow the U.N. group into the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

159 poisoning cases reported

Ministry to complete tests on contaminated water today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Ministry announced Sunday that by Monday it will complete laboratory tests on water which was thought to have caused poisoning in four districts in the Eastern regions of the capital.

The Health Ministry was entrusted by the government to conduct the tests following reported poisoning cases over the past few days in which at least 159 persons were affected.

At least 159 people were reported to have suffered from vomiting and diarrhoea after drinking the contaminated water, and were treated in local hospitals including the military hospital in Marja.

Ministry of Water and Irrigation Secretary General Anwar Bilbeisi was quoted by Al Ra'i Arabic daily as saying there were no reported deaths as a result of the mishap, and out of the total number of affected people, only nine were still hospitalised.

He said that his ministry's special teams have been estimating the situation and providing the Health Ministry with water samples for testing.

Bilbeisi said that water pumping was disrupted over the past five days because of the situation and due to current repair work on the old water networks.

However, the government ordered that no resumption of water pumping can take place until the pipes had been cleaned, maintenance work completed and laboratory tests made public.

In the meantime, according to Bilbeisi, water is being supplied by water tanker trucks to the five districts which are: North Marka, South Marka, Schneller Refugee

Camp and Ruseifa. Al Ra'i reporters interviewed some of those affected by the contaminated water and found that they were admitted to hospital after suffering from vomiting and diarrhoea.

Hospital sources and pharmacists in these districts said that they offered treatment to hundreds of people affected by the contamination and added that people they knew were using bottled water were not affected at all.

The paper quoted informed sources as saying that the contamination could have been caused by existing old water networks which are now being replaced by the water authority.

The sources said that the Greater Amman region consumes some 39 million cubic metres of water annually, but 44 per cent of this quantity is not used by people and is rather lost through leakage in old pipes.

The water situation in the

Kingdom and studies on water projects prepared by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation were reviewed by the cabinet at its weekly meeting Saturday.

The projects ensure sufficient water supplies for the Kingdom in the coming 20 years, according to a cabinet statement.

It said that JD 219,000 has been allocated for a project that entails drawing drinking water at the Zay region, west of Amman, and providing sufficient supplies of water for the capital's residents during the summer season.

The water situation, the statement said, will be discussed by the cabinet at future meetings.

At Saturday's session Prime Minister Zaid Rifai briefed the ministers on the general political situation and Jordan's position. The cabinet endorsed an agreement for obtaining a \$26 million loan from the World Bank to finance the Telecommunications Corporation's five-year plan.

Cabinet endorses Jordan-Egypt protocol

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The cabinet Sunday announced its endorsement of a Jordanian-Egyptian protocol concluded in Cairo earlier this month to boost trade exchanges between the two countries and to organise trade fairs for promoting the sale of their national products.

The protocol sets the annual volume of bilateral trade at \$250 million for the current year.

Ministry of Industry and Trade

Secretary General Mohammad Al Saqqaf, who signed the protocol for Jordan, said the goods, covered under the agreement, would be exempted from customs duty and all other fees in either country.

Saqqaf said that the two sides agreed on organising a trade fair for each country in the capital of the other and to allow for direct sale of goods to the public.

Jordan, under the agreement, will purchase Egyptian rice, cotton, aluminium, ammonia, broad beans, and fertilisers, while Egypt needs Jordanian cement, raw material for manufacturing detergents, paints, copper, lead, aluminium fluoride, glass and rock wool.

The cabinet also announced its approval of a JD 16 million budget for the Housing Corporation during 1988.

The cabinet has appointed L... Munther Al Masri as secretary general of the Ministry of Education to succeed Dr. Radi Al Waqfi who will retire as of June 1, 1988.

Until his appointment in the new post Masri had been director general of the Ministry of Labour's Vocational Training Corporation (VTC).

His replacement at the VTC has not been announced yet.

Assad leaves for Kuwait to discuss education

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian education delegation Sunday left for Kuwait on an official visit at the invitation of Kuwait's Minister of Higher Education Anwar Al Noun.

The delegation, led by Minister of Higher Education Nasreddine Al Assad, will spend five days in Kuwait meeting with officials and touring educational

institutions.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Assad was scheduled to meet with the Kuwaiti Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and the heir apparent, and will hold talks with senior Kuwaiti officials on coordinating cooperation between Kuwaiti and Jordanian universities as well as technical training institutes in the two countries.

Population symposium starts

AMMAN (Petra) — A regional symposium on population and the development of human resources began here Saturday at the University of Jordan in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, the Royal Scientific Society and the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

The university's acting president, in a speech at the opening

ceremony, said that the most dangerous population challenge, which the Arab nation was facing at present, was the Israeli occupation of Arab territories and Israel's continuing plans to annex Arab lands, uproot Arab populations from their homeland, confiscate Arab lands and properties as well as Israel's violation of human rights.

Queen to inaugurate new art gallery today

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor will Monday inaugurate a new contemporary art gallery in Amman, Al Wasiti.

Named after the famous 13th Century Arab artist who was one of the first illustrators to use a primitive kind of perspective in his work, the gallery will specialise in exhibiting works of art by Jordanian and Arab artists.

Based in the Plaza Hotel, Al Wasiti's permanent exhibition of art works will include pieces by the Jordanian artists Jamal Badran, Samira Badran, Muna Saudi, Hanna Saudi, Ali Jabri, Kayyad Amr, Salam Kana'an, Anwar Khanumash, Nabil Shahadeh.

Works by Annaout, Nazi Naber and Sami Burhan will represent Syria, and Saleh Jumayeh and Zia Azzawi from Iraq.

There will also be works by Kamal Balatta (Palestine) Samia Hallaby (Palestine), Mohammad Khalil (Sudan), Hussein Madi (Lebanon), Rashid Kourasheh (Algeria) and Chalaby Ibrahim

(Egypt). The gallery, established by Muna Saudi in response to a feeling that the capital lacked a really serious art gallery, will, it is hoped, be more than just an exhibition space.

"Al Wasiti will not just be an art gallery," Ms. Saudi told the Jordan Times, "it will also help to establish creative links between the artists themselves and between the artists and the public as well as keeping the public informed about contemporary Arab art."

"We also hope to create links with architects and with private and public institutions in the hope that art works, such as murals and sculptures will become an integral part of the architectural designs of public buildings and town squares," Saudi said.

It is hoped the gallery will eventually become self-financing, a percentage of all the sales of the artworks going towards the running expenses. Al Wasiti will be open to the public daily except Fridays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.



DONATION TO UNRWA: ARAMCO, the Saudi owned Arab-American Oil Company, has donated \$220,000 to UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees) to contribute to the agency's services to the Palestinian refugees. ARAMCO representative in Amman Jamal Sarayrah presented a cheque for the sum to Dennis Brown, UNRWA's acting director. The amount represents ARAMCO's contribution towards UNRWA's university scholarship and vocational training programmes and other UNRWA operations in 1988. ARAMCO makes annual contributions to UNRWA in support of these programmes benefiting Palestinian refugee children.

Stabbings reported in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 20-year-old youth identified only as A.M.A. was killed by 19-year-old H.F.H. at Jabal Hussein refugee camp Saturday according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

The report said that the victim was killed by a switch knife during a quarrel involving several people.

The paper also reported that a 40-year old man identified as S.O. stabbed his own sister aged 35 with a knife several times at Smeisani in Amman. The report said that the woman received several stabs in different parts of her body and was being treated at a hospital. The assailant was immediately apprehended by the police, the paper said.



The Polish folk troupe performs at the opening ceremony of the Polish Week Saturday (Petra photo)

2-week Polish folkloric events begin in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-week Polish event was inaugurated at the Jerusalem International Hotel in Amman Saturday by Tourism Minister Zuhair Ajlouni.

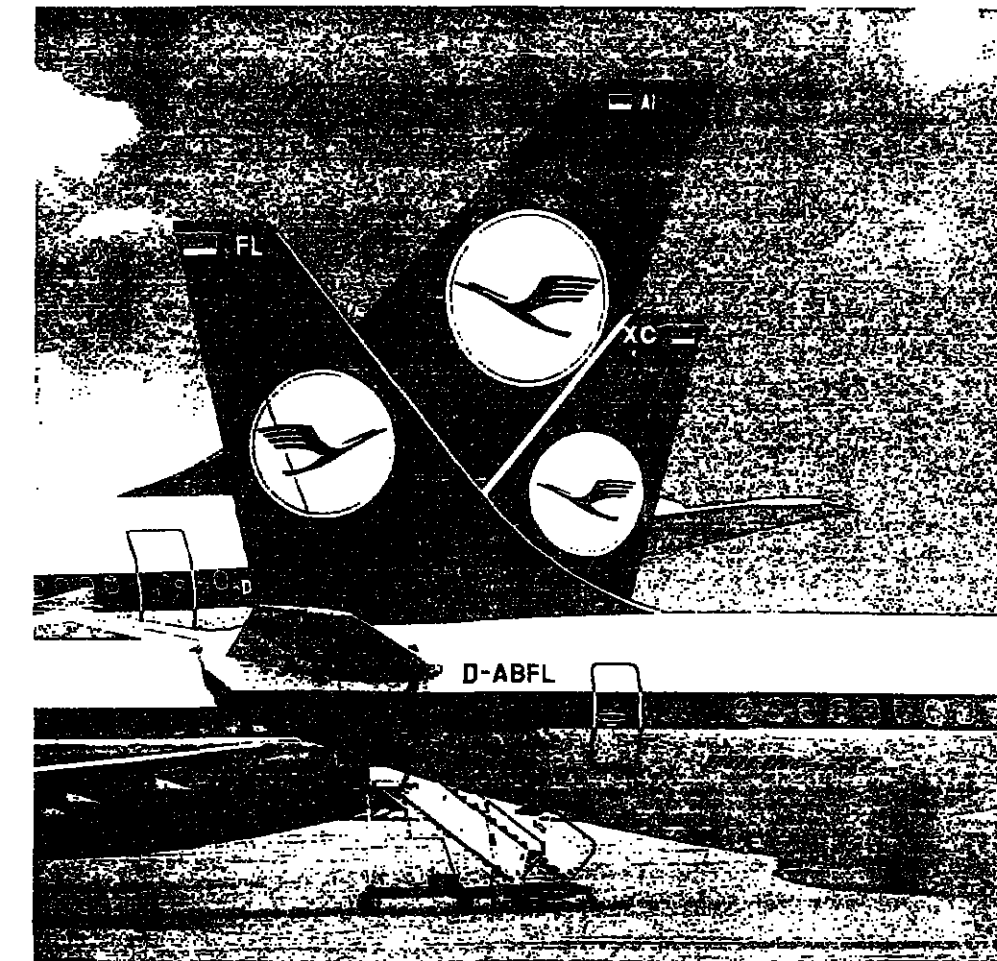
The event includes dances performed by the Polish folkloric troupe and national Polish dishes, as well as a fashion show and a film show, depicting tourist sites in Poland.

The Polish Charge d'Affaires in Amman Marian Dabrowski

addressed the opening ceremony in which, he said, that Jordan's trade with Poland now stands at \$40 million annually, and described relations between the two countries as "developing and progressing in cultural, tourist and commercial fields."

Dabrowski said his country would welcome any visit by Jordanian folk troupes and hopes that the event would further boost friendly ties between the two countries.

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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

PRINCESS SARVATH: Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Sunday inaugurated an art exhibition by George Kaplanian, held at the Goethe Institute. George's 45 paintings feature sceneries from Jordan and Syria.

EXHIBITION: Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday will open a general exhibition organised at the Ajloun Community College for Girls. The exhibition, which displays educational aids, books and needle work, will remain open to the public until May 26, according to Al Dustour newspaper. The paper said Princess Basma will later open an exhibition at the Jerash Girls Schools and will attend a ceremony for the graduation of the school's third secondary class.

CHILEAN ENVOY: Prime Minister Zaid Rifai met Sunday with Chilean Ambassador to Jordan Carlos Derpsch and discussed bilateral relations. Later, the Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat received the Chilean ambassador and discussed prospects of bilateral cooperation in voluntary work.

PARENTS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION: The Parents Teachers Association of the New English School held its meeting and elected a nine-member board of directors to supervise the school's affairs. The board comprises: Mrs. Thefaiz as chairman; Mrs. Ubaidah Bushnaq, Secretary; Mrs. Laila Madi, treasurer; Mrs. Siham Samaan, social committee; Mrs. Samira Goussous, Public relations; Mrs. Mona Abu Yaghi, member; Mr. Basil Kirresh, member; Mrs. Olivia Santos and Mona Alam representing the teaching staff. The committee proposed a plan for the next scholastic year.

PETROL STATIONS: The government has given its consent for setting up of petrol within the Greater Amman region and within the zones of municipalities, according to an official announcement by the Prime Ministry Sunday. The announcement said that petrol stations can be set up only in those areas approved by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and the Civil Defence Department (CDD), as well as concerned municipal authorities.

CANADIAN ENVOY: Canadian Ambassador to Jordan Michael Bell Sunday toured the Royal Jordanian Geographical Centre where he was briefed by the centre's director on the centre's establishment and future projects.

EDUCATION: Production and exchange of educational programmes, addressed to students in the occupied Arab territories have been the subject of discussion at a meeting held Sunday for a special pan-Arab committee in charge of educational programmes to Arab students in the occupied Arab territories.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الصحف الجordanية المستقلة السياسية المنشورة بالانجليزية من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Work not wish

THE Jordanian-American investment and trade seminars taking place in the United States this week, coming on the heels of the Jordanian investment seminar in Japan, are harbingers of things to come — or, at least, they should be. For five years, we have suffered the debilitating effects of a regional recession and a volatile international oil market, which have combined to usher in a sustained recession throughout the region. Really, though, what we have suffered from is as much a psychological as a material recession — because we breezed through the previous decade living in a dream world based on free money and endless markets in the oil-producing Gulf states. While we were enjoying the dream, our counterparts in other parts of the world, such as Singapore, Taiwan, Puerto Rico and Thailand, were rigorously working to develop their economic potential on the basis of producing goods and services which were in demand in several regional and global markets.

The result is that we have spent the last five years bailing out an array of ailing new industries and providing protection for a string of other domestic producers, while other Third World countries with assets similar to ours have produced, serviced and exported their way to balanced economic growth. It has taken a few years, but we seem finally to have appreciated that our economic growth will not suddenly revert to its oil-fuelled dream days; rather, we have to adopt a far more serious and hard-nosed attitude to our real economic potential and weaknesses, in such sectors as energy, minerals, demography, transport and transit trade, tourism and technology.

In the end, we have to produce and to market ourselves out of the recessionary cycle that has characterised the region for the past few years. This will require far more sophistication and hard work in two very basic fields in which Jordan has always lagged — quality control, and market research. If we produce good quality products (or agricultural produce, or services, or touristic facilities) and market them professionally for a real market which we have studied and identified, the chances of success are very high. The investment and trade seminars in the United States are an appropriate approach, for which the Jordanian government and USAID should be commended. Let us hope that this is the start of a long-term strategy of coherent economic growth, based on our willingness and ability to work — rather than to wish — our way to economic health and sustainable growth with equity.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Land for peace properly defined

IN preparation for his coming Middle Eastern tour, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has called on Israel to accept the concept of exchanging land for peace. He said that no Arab country will be able to negotiate with Israel unless the latter accepts the idea of swapping land for peace. This call on Israel represents little change in the U.S. stand, though it is below the level that the Arabs want and hope to achieve so that the U.S. will be qualified to play a meaningful role in the peace process. Shultz's call for exchanging land for peace should be maintained and explained by Washington as meaning that it does not accept the occupation of other countries' land by military force. Unless Washington gives this explanation, Israel might construe Shultz's statement the way it serves its own purpose. It should be noted that a similar situation arose when Shimon Peres gave his own version of an international conference on the Middle East when he said that it will be a mere protocol meeting after which direct negotiations can start. The United States unfortunately was persuaded by Peres's ideas and Washington came out in support of the idea. Therefore, Shultz's call for swapping land for peace is not sufficient by itself and does not mean that his coming tour of the Middle East will have a positive effect as a result of this statement. This is because Israel maintains its intransigence and Shamir continues to remain adamant in his position, totally rejecting the idea of an international conference where genuine peace can be achieved.

Al Dustour: Jordanian solidarity

INFORMATION Minister Hani Khasawneh in an interview with the Al Dustour Arabic daily shed light on Jordan's position with regard to various national issues particularly the Palestine question. The minister referred to King Hussein's speeches at the iftar banquets during the holy month of Ramadan in which he reiterated Jordan's determination to help the Palestinians regain their lands, stressing that the Kingdom has no other ambition than that in its continued struggle to achieve peace and end occupation of Palestinian territory. The minister echoed King Hussein's affirmation that the PLO remains the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and therefore Jordan cannot and will not as its substitute in future negotiations for peace. The minister reaffirmed the special relationship between the Jordanians and Palestinians who form one family on both banks of Jordan, and reiterated King Hussein's call on this family to maintain its solidarity. The minister's reaffirmation of the Jordanian position shed further light on the Kingdom's orientation towards regional issues. Jordan as the King said guards the longest confrontation lines with the enemy, standing firm in the face of dangers and Israel's expansionist ambitions as well as striving to help the Palestinians regain their land and rights.

Sawt Al Shaab: Arab summit

WE welcome the coming Arab summit meeting in Algiers which will be devoted to discussing means for confronting the common enemy's plans directed against the Arab nation. The summit comes at a time when the Israeli enemy is escalating a harmful propaganda campaign against the Kingdom and at a time when the Arab nation faces an Iranian aggression on the eastern flank of the Arab World while the Israelis step up their campaigns to stifle the spirit of resistance in the occupied Palestinian land. Jordan believes in the Arab League and its affiliated organisations which help to strengthen Arab solidarity. Jordan which hosted a successful summit last year considers the coming summit as a continuation of the good deeds for the benefit of the Arab Nation. The success of the Amman summit and the end of inter-Arab differences have paved the way for more successful meetings designed to help the nation overcome all elements of divisions and all side issues that weaken the Arab countries. Danger is being escalated through Iran's aggression and Israel's inhuman practices, and the Algiers meeting is essential at present to help the Arab leaders devote their time and effort to come out with further agreement on bolstering the ranks of the Arabs in the face of challenge.

Balance favours Dukakis

By Waleed Sadi

THE U.S. presidential election campaigns of the Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis and the Republican candidate George Bush are now in full swing and approaching the final stages of their respective election trails. With all the other candidates from both camps virtually written off as effectively out of the race, the limelight is now centered on Bush and Dukakis.

Although Jesse Jackson is still clinging to the race and has not counted himself out of the Presidential election it is clear now that he is keeping himself in the ring not so much as to bid to the post of the next president of the United States as to set the stage for the future when an American Negro can dream of becoming the president of the United States. In other words he is merely breaking the ground for such an opening. And the unexpectedly huge crowds from the various American constituencies which came out strongly in his favour would lend support to the proposition that an American Negro president in the future is no longer a fiction or a mirage. At this stage Jackson is clearly more interested in establishing precedents for the Negro population of the United States and for galvanising them into an American Negro political machine which both the Republican and Democratic parties would have to reckon with henceforth in more tangible and meaningful ways. And since there are more meetings of the minds between Jackson and Dukakis than with Bush, it appears inevitable that Jesse Jackson would ultimately lend his support and that of his principal constituencies to the cause of Dukakis. Simple arithmetic would substantiate the thesis that Dukakis stands to profit most from the huge turnouts in support of Jackson.

But that is not all. Bush's election campaign is tarnished and smeared beyond repair by so many scandals, innuendos and skeletons in his darkest closets that could prove fatal for him at the end of the election tunnel. Bush is so much associated with incumbent President Ronald Reagan that he runs the risk of being

marred by anything that has hurt the President. In fact George Bush is running his election campaign on the ticket that he and President Reagan are two sides of the same coin and agree on so many bread and butter issues as well as ideological and international policy objectives that makes them indistinguishable from one another.

To mention only a few of the haunting problems that are hurting Bush's chances of winning the next presidential election in the United States, one needs not go beyond recollecting the Irangate scandal and how much Bush was implicated in all its phases. The most recent revelations that Bush was privy to confidential information about Panamanian General Manuel Noriega's involvement in drug trafficking and money laundering some three years ago but has held his tongue in dubious silence will surely be fatal to his prospects and quest for the White House number one seat.

The drug problem in the United States is rightly a highly-charged issue and any politically ambitious man or woman caught weak or ambivalent on it will surely forfeit his chances of ever getting elected. Most likely Dukakis will capitalise to the maximum on the weak streaks in the character of Bush as revealed by the Irangate and Noriega's episodes.

Then we come to the disclosures that General Manuel Noriega had been on the C.I.A. payroll when Bush was the Director of the C.I.A. There is no doubt that such disclosures will not be good omen for Bush.

On the top of all these negative events and developments on the election campaign trail of Bush, one has to reckon with the aftermath of the most recently published book by ex-chief of staff at the White House Donald Regan entitled "For the Record". The book has been selling like hot cakes and even its publication and the shocking revelations in it about the eight years presidential tenure of President Reagan will definitely hurt Vice President George

Bush's chances of getting to the White House. The American people are not expected to tolerate another four or eight years of Republican rule after the Regan-Reagan encounter. I am therefore prepared to make the considered projection, on the basis of reported and televised American reaction to the various revelations about how the White House had been run over the course of the last eight years with both President Reagan and Vice President Bush on the helm, that the American people would insist on a change in the calibre and kind of leadership that they would want to govern them in the immediate future. Massachusetts Governor Dukakis and the forces rallying behind Jesse Jackson appear to offer the kind of alternative that they now seek. Dukakis is being aided by the fact that he has no skeletons of consequential dimensions. His serene and low key style of running the state government in his home state of Massachusetts would prove to be the pivotally positive marks that would tip the balance in favour of Dukakis and boost his prospects of becoming the next President of the United States.

While all this seems to be within the realm of conjecture at this stage of the Presidential elections, the election of Dukakis could be of positive consequential value for the Arab world. To begin with any change from the present course that Washington is pursuing vis-a-vis the Middle East stands to be better than status quo. Electing George Bush would mean the continuation of the same policies which have meant over the span of the last eight years the elevation of the American-Israeli relations to the strategic frontiers of many varied policy objectives and aspirations. Although Dukakis' wife is Jewish, he has made many policy statements on the Middle East which appear to be refreshing and promising. This could explain the fact that the majority of the Jews of America are openly supporting Bush and the overwhelming number of Arabs of America, although meagre in political strength and disorganised and disoriented, are openly supportive of Dukakis.

What does future hold for Afghanistan after pull-out?

By Eric Hall
Reuter

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — As Moscow starts pulling its troops out of Afghanistan, foreign analysts and Afghans ask whether the country will return to tribal rivalries, or whether a new, united nation has taken shape on the battlefields.

The last ruler of Afghanistan to pass away peacefully, with his authority intact, was Amir Abdur Rahman — in 1901.

For centuries, the Afghans have fought amongst themselves, stopping only for brief periods to make life difficult for foreign invaders, or to remove their own rulers.

One diplomat in Kabul commented: "The sense of nationhood is a problem. It is a feeble emotion in most Afghans whose instinctive loyalties are to family, village, valley, tribe, ethnic

group, and only then to country."

And U.S. Afghan expert Whitney Azy compares the country's political system to its national sport of Buzkashi, a violent game derived from the 12th-century Mongols where two teams of horsemen fight to control the headless body of a calf.

He sees the game's combination of shifting loyalties, subtle planning and changing fortunes, leading to a noisy climax of blood and dust, as a symbolic reflection of Afghan politics.

But only necessary blood is spilt. There is no bloodbath.

"There have always been such differences between clans, between tribes, between leaders. It's never really amounted to total bloodshed, or total civil war," said Farouk Adam Khan, a former Pakistan army officer who has travelled in Afghanistan.

However, others believe the Soviet occupation has marked a turning point in the country's

history.

They argue that the trauma of around one million war dead and the waging of an Islamic holy war against the Soviet superpower has created a true nationalism.

"The change has come. Now you feel and hear and smell that the Soviets are going. Anyone who comes next will be a Muslim," said Afghan writer Haji Ghulam Hazrat Kushan in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar.

This version of Islam is not, however, the fundamentalist Islam of Iran. Western political analysts said.

"Fundamentalism is a misleading word — Islamic revivalism is better," said one analyst in Kabul.

French expert on Afghanistan Olivier Roy sees such a revival as a critical point in history, linking it with a breakdown of the old Soviet order, the rise of a new

order under leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and awakening Islamic "nationalism" in Soviet Central Asia.

"The members of the Afghan resistance are no longer traditional rebels fighting a rear-guard action against Soviet expansionism, just as the Soviets are no longer Bolsheviks. The war in Afghanistan certainly marks a turning point in the history of Central Asia," he wrote in a book, "Islam and resistance in Afghanistan."

The ability of the guerrillas to stay united against the Kabul government will go a long way to proving which view of the future is correct.

Analysts define two types of guerrilla. In the Pakistani border town of Peshawar are the politicians, ambitious for power in Kabul and heading the seven-party Islamic alliance. Then there are the commanders who have fought the war in the frontline.

No one is sure how the commanders, most of them unknowns in the West, will react to the Peshawar politicians' plans.

It is known that some commanders, such as Ismail Khan in west Afghanistan and the formidable Ahmad Shah Massoud in the northwestern Panjsher Valley, have kept a polite distance from Peshawar, said one diplomat in Islamabad.

An official at the moderate Jamiat-E-Islami group thought that even if there was some fighting, independent Afghans would never allow an extremist party to control their destinies.

"We may have a problem if one party goes its own way, but then the people would soon desert that party," he said.

"The potential for civil war is very great but the guerrillas are aware of this danger and the disaster it would be," said a Western diplomat in Islamabad.

Kabul will undoubtedly attempt to undermine guerrilla unity by playing on people's war weariness and internal weaknesses amongst the guerrilla groups, the analysts said.

However, Afghan President Najibullah's People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) is itself split into two bitterly opposed factions.

"Don't forget that when the Soviets go, disunity will also increase amongst the PDPA," said Fazle Akbar, former director of Kabul Radio, now in Peshawar. The fate of former King Zahir Shah, deposed in 1973 and living in Rome, reflects the uncertain future.

The king symbolises the old tribal past. Many Afghans feel nostalgia for this, others reject it completely.

The old king himself has appeared most reluctant to take back the precarious throne.

Romania suffers isolation from East, West

By Teddie Weyr
Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania — Nicolae Ceausescu's Romania is becoming increasingly isolated from both East and West. Its austere economic and human-rights policies are under fire from both sides.

The official media of Romania's East Bloc allies frequently assail Ceausescu's economic austerity at home, contending that the privatisation has imposed upon the nation's 23 million people is excessive.

In the West, Romania is criticised on human-rights grounds. The United States, for example, had given most favoured nation status. But as a condition for continuing the accompanying trade benefits, Ceausescu was told to improve human-rights conditions by providing freedom of speech and religion and the freedom to emigrate if one wanted to.

Rather than submit to those conditions, Romania opted out of the U.S. special trading privileges in February.

The result is that Romania finds itself in virtual isolation, although at one time it played a role as an important mediator, accepted by East and West, in the Middle East.

Ceausescu maintains good relations with Palestine Liberation Organisation Chief Yasser Arafat, and Romania was the only Soviet bloc country not to break diplomatic relations with Israel during the Arab-Israeli war in 1967.

Romania has been cool to Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms in the Soviet Union. The Soviet leader countered a year ago, during a visit to Bucharest, with an attack on corruption and nepotism. Nepotism is a sensitive issue in Romania, where Ceausescu's wife, son, brother and brother-in-law hold high posts in the Communist party and government.

Former U.S. President Richard Nixon paved the way for improved relations with Romania with a visit in 1969, and President Gerald Ford came in 1979. Now, the most senior U.S. visitor has been Deputy Secretary of State John C. Whitehead, who expressed regret after a visit this year that he couldn't get the human-rights concerns through to Ceausescu.

Ceausescu fell into further western disfavor in January when the Romanian press published greetings from Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and the monarchs of

Spain, Sweden and Belgium on his 70th birthday.

All turned out to be fakes. Romanians are seeing the fruits of their labours flow into the export market while they are deprived of imported goods as Ceausescu seeks to pay the nation's foreign debt through austerity at home.

The average monthly wage for the nearly 25 million residents is 3,035 lei (\$347 at the official exchange rate), but farmers' income is lower.

Around corners, away from the main streets, people stand in lines that sometimes stretch for a block, waiting for a daily ration of bread, or a bottle of milk.

At 6 a.m. one recent day, a woman was seen handing bottles of milk out of a grating at the side of a closed shop. The dawn transactions seemed outside official sanction.

When bread is available, people tote it away by the armfuls, sometimes biting off chunks as they make their way home.

Pedestrians who have managed to find eggs weave precariously through traffic, careful not to break any.

Except in major hotels, lighting is kept low to save electricity. Department store escalators no longer operate.

Not long ago, Romania's prospects looked much better. The nation still had oil and natural gas, agricultural abundance and a budding heavy industry. Ceausescu dealt more with the West which made him a maverick in the Soviet bloc.

His crash economic development stressed energy-intensive industries, such as petrochemicals, aluminium and steel.

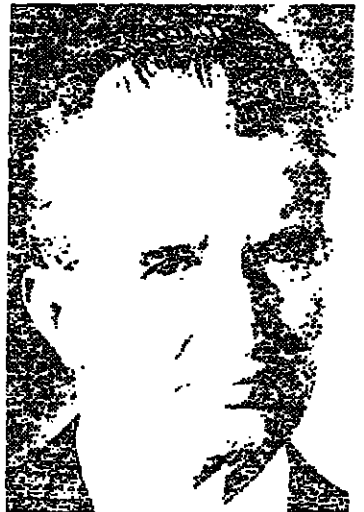
Dwindling oil reserves

But with dwindling domestic oil reserves — production has plummeted from 980 million barrels a year a decade ago to 70 million now — Romania had to rely on imports to feed huge oil-refining complexes built in the 1960s and early 1970s when oil was cheap.

Now people park their cars in lines at gas stations, even though they are closed, to be ready for the next fuel delivery. The use of private cars has been banned four winters in a row.

Romania also had to borrow heavily from the West. By 1981, the foreign debt had reached more than \$11 billion, although it has since been reduced to about \$4.5 billion.

Ceausescu has never explained



Nicolai Ceausescu

his reasoning for pursuing a course that has brought so much hardship to his 23 million people. Some Romanians and western diplomats say it is personal ambition. He has built a personality cult around him unrivaled by other current Soviet Bloc leaders.

Even his east bloc allies criticise Ceausescu, and he has estranged himself from the West, which he once courted as it courted him. He no longer has special trade privileges with the United States.

The result is that Romania is drawing more and more into isolation as its people struggle to live from one day to the next.

The bright spring, with flowers in full bloom, people carrying fresh bouquets and women chiefly dressed in Western styles, hides the strains of a hard winter, the daily struggle for food and the lack of freedom of information and speech.

About 10,000 people marched in the central city of Brasov this past November to demand higher wages, more food and Ceausescu's resignation. But diplomats

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sprawling chemical plants puffing black smoke out over the pastures. Industry accounts for around 60 per cent of the gross national product.

Vegetable supplies at private markets are sparse, mainly root vegetables or great mounds of paprika spice. There is no fruit.

While city dwellers line up for hours for food and other essentials, peasants and villagers often must trudge many kilometres to get their produce to market.

Officials say a plan to establish agro-industrial centers and modernise cities is aimed at improving living standards.

An official from the National Council of City Halls said the project is designed to put industry at the source of raw materials and provide hospitals, schools and social services for more people.

In the new centres, he said, one family member could work in industry, while the rest tilted the land, thus preventing the tradi-

tional drift from rural to urban communities.

But the agro-industrial centres also could mean that as many 6,000 villages eventually will vanish.

A diplomat said the project makes it easier to control people and will strip peasants of what independence they now have.

In cities, modernisation has led to widespread demolition.

In Bucharest, for example, 28 churches and synagogues have been destroyed to make way for a palatial center to house Communist Party Headquarters. The building looks out over an avenue more than 1 kilometre long, lined with sculpted white apartment blocks and derisively called the "Champs Elysees of the Balkans" by Romanians.

Work on the project is done night and day. As the city falls into darkness with only dim street lighting, the floodlit construction dominates the skyline.

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- Tenders shall be submitted at the Government Tenders Directorate not later than 1:30 afternoon on Wed. June 29, 1988.

Chairman, Central Tenders Committee
Director, Govt. Tenders Directorate.

هكذا عند العمل

'Hall of Graves' sheds light into Bahrain's mysterious past

By Patrick Werr
Reuters

BAHRAIN — Archaeologists in Bahrain have been racing against time to examine thousands of ancient burial mounds before bulldozers destroy them for ever.

Modern progress has wiped out more than a third of the 80,000 graves — some up to 4,500 years old — in the largest cemetery of its kind in the world.

But part of what the archaeologists have saved will be preserved in a hall of graves at Bahrain's new national museum, due to open in December.

Some graves were in the path of a billion-dollar causeway which now links Bahrain to Saudi Arabia. Others were buried under a modern housing scheme.

Two mounds, one in the oldest style and one later, will be brought intact from the desert to the hall of graves. A preserved dabb — a big desert lizard — will guard the tombs.

Bahrain, a palm-covered island made green by fresh water springs, was the base of the ancient Dilmun empire whose trade stretched from the Indus Valley in Pakistan to Mesopotamia in present-day Iraq.

Archaeologist Bruno Frohlich, of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, said 10 years of research had revealed a well-organised Bahraini culture that had grown very wealthy.

Studies on thousands of skeletons revealed that

Bahrainis 4,000 years ago lived longer than contemporaries in other parts of the Middle East, said Frohlich, a biologist by training.

Some skeletons bore signs of diseases of old age like arthritis and fluorosis, an ailment caused by excess fluoride.

Few broken bones indicated little warfare and there were indications of a people cared for and supported by other members of the society, Frohlich said. The resources allotted to grave-building indicated a wealthy society.

Solid bedrock made it difficult to bury the dead underground. Mounds were built in two styles. Crude 4,500-year-old burial chambers of uncut stone are found scattered in dry river beds on high ground.

Some 17,000 such mounds were built over a 300-year period. Bronze objects, seals and pottery were placed inside.

The pottery, of designs common in other parts of the Gulf, indicated active regional trade 4,000 years ago.

Mound styles changed around 2200 B.C. and over the next 500 years 67,000 increasingly sophisticated tombs were built closer to fresh water and settlements.

Frohlich said the change marked a shift in society itself which had become more dependent on land cultivation and trade.

The ancient settlements have not been found, probably because modern villages stand on the same sites.

Professional builders pre-

pared the burial mounds, the size depending on the wealth of the client.

A stone chamber, aligned on the rising sun, was surrounded by a wall and the area between the two was filled with sand.

The body was laid in a flexed position with knees drawn under the chin. Objects set alongside it included bronze-ware, carved steatite, baskets of palm leaf and bitumen, sacrificial goats and sheep.

Men's and women's graves differed little and children were buried in small chambers along the mound's periphery.

Frohlich said research had thrown cold water on a widespread belief that Mesopotamians used Bahrain for burials.

The theory held that a small native population in Bahrain would not have needed so many graves.

Mesopotamians considered Bahrain a sacred land, and some experts believed they could have sent their dead to the island for burial. "I have been fighting that theory for years," said Frohlich, who contends that, on the contrary, not enough graves have been found for the number of people Bahrain could have supported over 800 years.

Because the graves were so visible, he said, they appeared more numerous than in other countries where the dead were buried below ground.

"The question is what happened to the rest of the people? Where were they buried?" said Frohlich.



Human and animal motifs on the Dilmun stamp seals



An aerial view of one of the burial sites in Bahrain

Syria said to have Hizbollah guarantee Fadlallah pledges to help free hostages

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's most influential Shi'ite Muslim cleric has pledged to help free foreign hostages and a newspaper reported that Syria had secured a pledge from the pro-Iranian Hizbollah militia to protect the safety of the captives held in Beirut's southern suburbs.

Ali Mohammad Besharati, Iranian deputy foreign minister, the message that Syria "would consider any harm inflicted on the hostages as an action directed against it."

Most of the 18 foreign hostages in Lebanon, including nine Americans, are believed held by extremists affiliated with Hizbollah inside the 40-square-kilometre slums, the scene of fierce clashes between Hizbollah and the Syrian-backed Amal militia.

Hizbollah's spiritual guide, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, said: "I feel with the families of the hostages and I am doing all I can to reach a happy ending."

Fadlallah promised to "invest all my energies" to resolve the hostage problem and said: "I am still exerting pressure to reach a humanitarian solution." He did not say who he was pressuring.

Fadlallah released his statement late Saturday night through

Soviet emigres forced to Israel

AMMAN (J.T.) — In an effort to stem the tide of Soviet Jewish emigres who settle in the United States and other Western countries, Israel is now issuing exit visas only in the Romanian capital of Bucharest and requiring that emigres fly from there direct to Israel, reports the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU).

Meanwhile the Al Itihad newspaper of Abu Dhabi reported Sunday that Hizbollah has pledged to the Syrians to safeguard all hostages held in the slums as part of a negotiated, eight-point agreement to regulate the Syrian deployment.

Quoting a senior political source in Beirut, Al Itihad said that Damascus had conveyed to

The latest issue of the CAABU bulletin said that previously, Jews leaving the Soviet Union received their Israeli visas at the Dutch embassy in Moscow which, in the absence of Israeli-Soviet diplomatic relations, represents Israel's interests in the Soviet Union. After travelling to Vienna, the emigres were supposed to go on to Israel, but most have opted for the United States.

UAE's English dailies come under criticism

ABU DHABI (AP) — An Arabic newspaper has waged a war of words against local English dailies, accusing them of ignoring coverage of local and Arab events.

The newspaper Al Khaleej criticised what it called "this serious negligence" in the coverage of local and Arab events by two of three English newspapers published in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Reporting the new restrictions, the Jerusalem Post noted that "Moscow (Jewish) activists said that the bid to steer Jews toward Israel may backfire: if Israel is their only alternative, some Jews may opt to remain in the Soviet Union."

The English-speaking community forms more than half of the population in the UAE totalling 1.6 million, mainly Indians, Pakistanis and Europeans.

On Friday, the Arabic newspaper mentioned the three local English dailies by name, praising the government-owned Emirates News and criticising both the leading English daily Khaleej Times and its competitor Gulf News.

One of the activists, Sergei Mkrtychyan, was quoted as saying that he knew of some half dozen would-be emigres who had turned down the offer of visas after being told that they would have to travel to Israel. "They rejected it because they wanted to go to America," he said.

The presence of one million foreigners in the country, half of them speak English, gives us a chance to convince them of our just causes and convert them into supporters when they return to their countries," Al Khaleej said.

Khaleej Times editor Mahbub Jamal Zahedi said his newspaper "always highlighted Arab events" and paid special attention to local coverage.

In the first quarter of 1988 over 2,400 Soviet Jews emigrated, but Israel attracted only a small proportion. Of the 986 who emigrated in March, only 221 went to Israel and 42 of them travelled via Bucharest.

Gulf News editor Bikram Vohra refused to comment.

Zinchuk: Mideast figures high on summit agenda

(Continued from page 1)

Zinchuk confirmed that "there are open communication channels between the Soviet Union and Israel outside the realm of diplomatic ties and these contacts are paramount to reaching a settlement to the Middle East conflict."

"Israel has become a reality... and should be pressured to take a realistic and intelligent stand towards an international peace conference," he said.

Zinchuk accused the international media and Israeli press of "intentionally distorting the Soviet image in the Arab World."

Zinchuk described the latest American peace proposal for the Middle East as "one-sided, not taking into account the different angles and needs of the issue at hand." He said that the Soviet Union was not interested in frequently sending envoys to the

area with no viable solution to the conflict but would rather make "effective and positive trips which would help the different parties agree upon a route which would guarantee a peaceful settlement."

Palestinian representation

Zinchuk said the issue of Palestinian representation in peace talks was discussed by His Majesty King Hussein and the Soviet leadership during the King's December 1987 visit to Moscow. There was no point of conflict between Jordan and the Soviet Union on the essence of this issue, the ambassador said.

"Essentially, there is agreement that the PLO should attend an international peace conference on equal footing with other concerned parties," he said. "The shape of the representation will be decided by the PLO itself and parties to the conflict," and could

take one of three options: a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, a joint Arab delegation or a separate Palestinian delegation, the ambassador said.

Three more Palestinians killed

(Continued from page 1)

after hundreds of protesters pelted troops with stones on an avenue recently renamed for slain Palestinian leader Khalil Wazir, said officials at Al Itihad hospital.

Israel has been blamed for the April 16 assassination of Wazir, who was gunned down at his home in a Tunis suburb.

Two boys were hit by rubber bullets in the Nablus incident. Another three were treated for beating injuries, according to hospital officials.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, soldiers clashed Saturday night

Zinchuk praised King Hussein for his mediation efforts which contributed to a solution to the Afghanistan problem and Soviet withdrawal from the country.

with protesters at the Deir Al Balah refugee camp, wounding an 18-year-old in the right leg, officials at Gaza City's Ahli Hospital said.

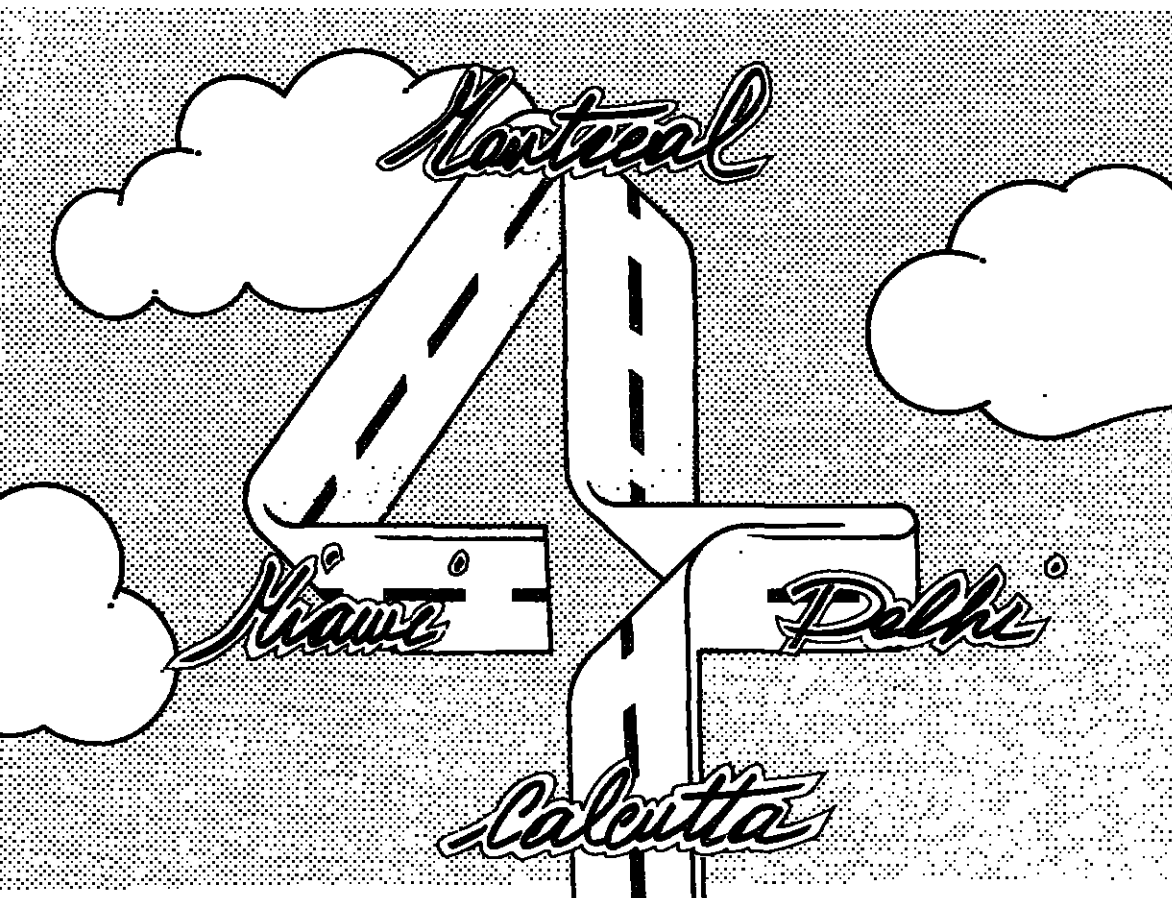
News reports said the camp was placed under curfew after the incident.

Also Sunday, Israeli officials reopened schools that were shut for nearly four months in Arab Jerusalem.

Israel Radio said up to 80 per cent attendance was reported in the city's 16,000 Arab elementary and high school pupils.

The army said it would reopen schools in the West Bank Monday.

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AMMAN JORDAN

Analysts see market unease continuing till U.S. elections

LONDON (R) — Last week, it seemed as if dealers in financial markets got everything they have been hoping for since the crash of 87. They reacted by selling stocks.

Economists say the gloom reaction to news of a sharp drop in the massive U.S. trade deficit, of an OECD forecast that the global economy would be more buoyant than it thought, and of modest U.S. inflation may reflect an uneasiness that is likely to continue until the U.S. presidential election in November.

"The fundamentals are looking good," said D. Sykes Wilford, an economist with Chase Manhattan Bank's London office. "The economy is growing like mad... the dollar should be rising, stocks should be up."

But there are other concerns still in the background.

That is why dealers were not encouraged by last week's report of an unexpectedly sharp drop in the U.S. trade deficit, to \$9.75 billion in March after nearly \$14 billion in February, economists say.

The trade deficit, raising fears that Americans were spending more dollars than the rest of the world wanted to hold, helped set off last October's crash.

"The March U.S. trade figures were 'good,' but the general

trend is simply not good enough," wrote columnist William Keegan in the London Sunday Observer.

"The worry is that the kind of imbalances which led to last October's crash have not gone away," he added. "The U.S. strategy is to put off the day of reckoning until after the presidential election in November."

That election could weigh on markets for some time — especially since Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, the front-running candidate for the Democratic Party, is ahead of likely Republican nominee, Vice President George Bush, in the latest opinion polls, said Wilford, at Chase Manhattan.

Financial markets tend to prefer Republican presidents, he noted. Many are worried that Dukakis would raise taxes to cut the massive U.S. budget deficit. Higher taxes would slow growth, cut company profits and make owning shares much less attractive.

The budget deficit has been a big worry on world bond markets.

Traders expect the United States will have to keep selling huge amounts of bonds — basically IOUs — to finance this shortfall.

But they think investors will balk, unless the interest rates paid on those bonds also rise.

In anticipation of this, discounts on U.S. government bonds rose last week, pushing their effective interest rates to the highest levels seen yet this year.

"All those people who thought the U.S. budget deficit was getting better have come to the realisation that (it) is not true," said Marilyn Schajda, an economist with Wall Street giant Donaldson Lufkin Jenrette Securities Inc.

In world stock markets, some dealers say they are worried that governments will push interest rates higher to cool inflation.

Just like higher taxes, costlier borrowing would cut business profits and slow economic growth, dealers fear.

So they shrugged off the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD's) report last week that it expected the American, Japanese and West German economies to grow more quickly than it first forecast after the crash.

But dealers say they are worried that the price for cutting the massive U.S. trade deficit is inflation.

They worry that the higher prices on imports which follow a slump in the dollar will push prices up across the board and that strong economic growth will also rekindle inflation.

Bank of Jordan posts less profit

By Shafi Nicholas

AMMAN — Bank of Jordan earned JD 1,407,761 during 1987, nearly 35 per cent less than the JD 2,153,034 the bank earned during 1986.

The bank also raised its reserves for doubtful loans by JD 580,000, more than double the amount of JD 236,000 it kept aside for potential loss in 1986.

As a result, the net profit of the bank declined from a high of JD 1,916,934 to JD 827,761 at the end of 1987, but the bank opted to distribute dividends at a rate of 10 per cent which amounts to JD 525,000 as a whole compared to JD 776,000 at the end of 1986.

The 1987 balance sheet showed total assets/liabilities standing at JD 121,659,607, down by nearly JD 5 million from the 1986 total. The lower figure resulted from a

decline in discounted bills and loans, and from a drop in current accounts and demand deposits in addition to decreases in borrowed funds from other banks and financial institutions, cash collaterals and other items.

Off balance sheet items (guarantees, letters of credit and acceptances) amounted to JD 21,281,114 in 1987 compared to JD 22,433,519 at the end of 1986.

Jordan's exports double in January

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — Jordan's exports in January 1988 amounted to JD 21,316,157 against JD 10,114,704 in the same month of last year according to official figures released Sunday.

The figures show that Jordan's exports to Iraq increased by 256 per cent and there were substantial increases in national exports to North America and other Arab countries.

Exports to Europe increased by 66 per cent and to Syria by 59 per cent.

These figures show that Jordan has been exporting leather products, furniture, kitchens, materials used for packaging, plastics, phosphate, potash, fertilisers,

chemical products, textiles, food supplies and building materials.

According to the release, Jordan's exports in February 1988 amounted to JD 17,981,440 against JD 5,224,000 in February of 1987.

According to a report in Al Dustour Arabic newspaper, Jordan's imports from countries of the European Community (EC) registered a decline of more than JD 35 million in the first 10 months of 1987.

Jordan imported goods worth JD 215 million in the first 10 months of 1987 against JD 250 million in the same period of the previous year, the report said.

It said that this decline is bound

to stem the drain of hard currency flowing abroad to pay for imported commodities.

According to the report, Jordan imported goods from Belgium, West Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Holland, Denmark, Greece, and Spain. Jordan also imported products from Austria, Sweden and Switzerland among other non-EC countries, the report noted.

It said that between January and October of 1987, Jordan exported JD 13 million worth of national products to these European countries compared with JD 12,779 million in the same period of 1986.

Saudi cement firm seeks loan rescheduling after 1987 loss

BAHRAIN (R) — The construction industry hit by declining oil revenues, Saudi Arabia's newest cement producer has asked creditors to reschedule 750 million riyals (\$200 million) in loans.

company had asked banks to

stretch out payments on a 450 million riyal syndicated loan (\$120 million) signed in June, 1985.

The loan was divided into a 350 million (\$93 million) term facility due to mature in 1992 and a 100 million riyal (\$27 million) revolving two-year credit to be repaid on June 1 this year.

The company, based in the kingdom's Eastern Province, said it was able to make the first instalment of the term loan in June, 1987, but fell behind on a 47 million riyal (\$12.5 million) second instalment in December.

Bankers said about 323 million riyals (\$86 million) was still outstanding on the term facility and 49 million riyals (\$13 million) on the revolving credit.

Lead managers in the syndication were National Commercial Bank (NCB), Riyadh Bank and Al Bank Al Saudi Al Fransi, all based in Saudi Arabia. NCB was also the agent bank.

Bankers said they believed the company had missed instalments on its 400 million (\$107 million) SIFD loan, too, making a total of around 750 million riyals.

Cement producers in Saudi Arabia say industry profits have plummeted over the last few years as major infrastructure projects begun during the oil boom years have wound down.

In its annual report published in a Saudi newspaper last week, Saudi-Kuwait said its net loss increased to 46.9 million riyals (\$12.5 million) from 27.7 million riyals (\$7 million) in 1986.

visit to Manila Sunday, to help promote the aid proposal in Europe.

The Washington Post has reported the U.S. will try to put together a \$10 billion, five year package with its allies.

U.S. officials have confirmed a plan was being considered. "I hope they can come up with a plan so they can help us with our economic recovery programme," Aquino said in a pre-recorded radio message, a transcript of which was released by the presidential palace.

She also urged foreign creditors to be more lenient in exacting debt dues from her cash-strapped country.

Aquino's appeal came amid efforts by Philippine finance officials to negotiate easier debt payment terms with 483 creditor banks.

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AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for May 22, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	669346	JD 551179	563
Top three companies:			
Universal Chemical Industries	104283	JD 167528	39
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	90225	JD 124152	108
Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries	147646	36778	54
Parallel market:	56700	JD 32633	
Development bonds:	2800	JD 30260	
Treasury bills & bonds:			
Other debentures:			

U.N. urges selling surplus food to help poor

NICOSIA (R) — Food surpluses of rich nations should be sold to help poor states pay their debts, a United Nations meeting in Cyprus will be told Monday.

"The developing countries would use it (the cash) to assist in development, to help their foreign debt," Alain Vidal-Nacquet, the United Nations World Food Council's chief of external relations, told reporters.

Delegates from 36 countries to the four-day council meeting will discuss problems of a world where food surpluses exist alongside starvation and poverty.

"We want to see if countries with surpluses can discuss with other developed countries a bridge... not only in food but in money it represents," said Vidal-Nacquet.

He said Europe, Canada, the United States and Australia were fighting a trade war based on food subsidies, spending huge sums on stockpiling cereals, milk and butter.

Delegates will be asked to approve a report tabled at a U.N. conference in Jakarta in April which said "there can be no justification for hunger amidst food surpluses."

The report asked countries with surplus food to commit part to the scheme and help with the cost of shipping it.

It said a donation of up to 25 million tonnes of cereals could provide \$2.5 billion.

The conference will also consider a U.N. paper on famine in Africa and food shortages in Asia and Latin America.

"Unnecessary child deaths caused by malnutrition and poverty remain at unacceptably high levels," it said.

"Earlier progress in fighting hunger, malnutrition and poverty has come to a halt or is being reversed in many parts of the world," it concluded.

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U.S. officials have confirmed a plan was being considered. "I hope they can come up with a plan so they can help us with our economic recovery programme," Aquino said in a pre-recorded radio message, a transcript of which was released by the presidential palace.

She also urged foreign creditors to be more lenient in exacting debt dues from her cash-strapped country.

Aquino's appeal came amid efforts by Philippine finance officials to negotiate easier debt payment terms with 483 creditor banks.

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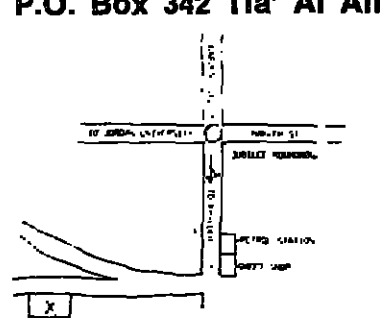
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Tenders should be submitted not later than Saturday June 25 1988.

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Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Amman to host 1990 Asian Table Tennis Championship

Chen bags men's singles

NIIGATA, Japan (Agencies) — China's Chen Longcan Sunday won the Asian Table Tennis Championships men's singles and attributed his victory to three cups of coffee drunk just before the game.

Chen, the world's third-ranking player, beat South Korea's Yoo Nam-Kyu 21-18, 21-13, 21-13 to give China a total of four out of seven titles in the tournament, with South Korea winning the other three.

Yoo beat world champion and defending Asian champion, China's Jiang Jialiang, to gain a place in the final, but Chen, 24, proved too strong for him.

"In the last couple of days, I haven't been feeling too wide-awake, so I didn't play as well as I'd like, but after three cups of coffee today, I was more alert," Chen said.

Jiang's defeat in the semi-finals ended what has been a disappointing tournament for him. He lost in both the doubles and mixed doubles and dropped China's only set against the North Koreans in the team events.

"I've been sick recently, I didn't play as well as I can," Jiang said. "But it doesn't matter, you win some, you lose some."

Asked his opinion of Yoo's play, Jiang said: "I can beat him, he's good but I know I can beat him."

Both men's and women's event victors said their next aim was to win the gold medal at the Seoul Olympics in September, where table tennis will be featured for the first time.

In the All-Chinese Women's Singles, top-seeded He Zhili needed four sets to defeat Jiao Zhimin 21-12, 19-21, 21-13, 21-9 in the women's singles final. It was her third Asian Championship.

"I think each nation's technical skills are almost the same now," he told reporters. "So the mental problem is more important for the victory."

North Korea, one of the giants in Asian table tennis, withdrew from the championship Friday to protest the Japanese government order to leave a reception hosted in its honour because it amounted to a "political act."

The next Asian Table Tennis Championship will be held in Amman, Jordan, in 1990, it was announced.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ6 ♡AJ2 ♢72 ♣AKB72
What is your opening bid?
A.—You have 17 HCP and a balanced hand, so one no trump describes your hand perfectly. Don't let the weak doubleton dissuade you from making your natural bid. If you open one club and partner responds one diamond, you will have no good rebid.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AJ93 ♡KQ8 ♢KQ7 ♣652
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—This is simply a matter of addition. Partner is showing a balanced hand of 19-20 points and you have a balanced hand of 15. That gives your side a total of 34-35, enough for a small slam but short of a grand. Bid six no trump.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠7 ♡AJ982 ♢K10653 ♣85
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—You don't need much from partner to make game—a minimum opening bid with heart support could be enough. But if you bid one heart partner might pass. Correct is a jump shift to two hearts, which is forcing for one round and promises a good fit for opener's suit.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KQJ10653 ♡6 ♢8 ♣Q9852
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 4 ♠ Dbl
Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—We are not in the habit of pulling partner's pesky doubles, but this hand certainly warrants such action. Partner is expecting some defensive values from you, and you are contributing nothing. You would not have been faced with this problem had you made a weak jump overall of two spaces in the first place.

Q.7—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.8—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.9—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.10—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.11—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.12—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.13—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.14—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.15—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.16—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.17—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.18—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.19—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.20—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.21—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

Q.22—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A107 ♡KQ92 ♢K986 ♣J6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner is showing a six-card suit and, at the same time, denying a four-card major. Therefore, there is no point to mentioning your hearts. Jump to three no trump.

Q.23—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠72 ♡KJ63 ♢76532 ♣94
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl Pass ?
What action do you take?
A.—Partner has asked you to bid your best suit, and you have a five-card one to boot. Be good and respond one diamond. Don't bid one spade trump. That would be forward-going, and partner would expect some 8-10 points.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Police arrest fighting fans at exhibition game

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Police moved into the crowd at Saturday's England-Scotland exhibition soccer game at Wembley stadium to quell fighting between rival fans. Some 20 fans were ejected after a disturbance that began just as the second half was about to begin and the remainder of the match a strong cordon of police kept the chanting supporters apart. Some 70,000 fans watched the match, which England won 1-0. Police said they also arrested 76 fans in and around the ground for general misbehavior and drunkenness on top of 38 overnight in Central London as thousands of Scottish fans descended on the capital for the match. A policeman was taken to hospital with facial injuries after a beer can was pushed into her face when she tried to stop a fight between rival fans in London's West End. The incidents come as officials of soccer's European governing body, UEFA, are considering whether to allow English clubs back into their competitions next season.

Champions Bruges loses, Mechelen draws

BRUSSELS (R) — New Belgian soccer champions Club Bruges were defeated on the final day of the Belgian Championship, while Ghent and Racing Jet were relegated to the second division. Bruges, who secured the title last week, lost 1-0 at Waregem after a seventh minute goal from Hans Christiaens. Surprise European Cup Winners' Cup victors Mechelen finished runners-up, two points behind Bruges, after a 1-1 draw against Lowly Beveren. Antwerp, who lost 3-2 against Standard Liege, took third place, while Anderlecht and FC Liege finished fourth and fifth respectively. Waregem can become the sixth Belgian team in European competition next season if Anderlecht beat Standard Liege in next week's Belgian Cup final. Anderlecht would join Mechelen in the Cup Winners' Cup, while Antwerp, FC Liege and Waregem line up in the UEFA Cup. Club Bruges tackle the European Cup.

Monaco draws with Metz

PARIS (R) — Monaco, handed the French Soccer League title Friday when nearest rivals Bordeaux lost at Nantes, drew 2-2 at Metz Saturday. Scottish striker Eric Black fired Metz ahead in the second minute but the champions equalised in the 37th through Jean-Philippe Rohr. Seconds before halftime Metz striker Carmelo Micicic beat goalkeeper Jean-Luc Ettori, but defender Manuel Amoros levelled again in the 67th minute. Montpellier, fighting for a UEFA Cup place, beat Lowly Le Havre 3-1. Christian Perez, Thierry Laurey and Kader Ferhaoui scored for Montpellier. Ladislav Visek replied with a penalty. Sixth-placed Marseille surprisingly lost 2-1 at home to Paris Saint-Germain, second from bottom. Strasbourg and Sochaux gained promotion from the second division.

Princess Anne's horse dies after race

WARWICK, England (AP) — Princess Anne's horse collapsed and died shortly after it carried her to third place in the veteran's Chase Race Saturday. The princess, 37-year-old daughter of Queen Elizabeth II, had pulled up on Cnoc Na Cuille at the end of the race and was taking him back to the unsaddling enclosure when trainer David Nicholson noticed the horse was in distress. The princess dismounted and was quickly ushered from the scene. Moments later the 11-year-old horse collapsed and died. The Bay Gelding was the princess's own horse. Jockey Hywel Davies, whose Mount Forestale lost third place to the princess, said: "He battled by me from the last to the winning post with real vigour." A post-mortem, a normal procedure in instances of racehorses dying suddenly, will be held by the local veterinary officer. But Nicholson said he believed the animal suffered a heart attack.

Aouita skips to win 3,000 metre race

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE, Spain (AP) — Said Aouita of Morocco, who holds world records in the 1,500 and 2,000 metre events, won the 3,000 metre race in an international track and field meet Saturday. Aouita, 27, who entered the race after a three-month layoff to recover from a fracture in a toe, won the 3,000 metres event in 7:58.80 in the nearby town of La Laguna. Fellow Moroccan Ibrahim Boutaib finished second with a time of 8:00.10. Mogens Guldberg of Denmark was third in 8:01.20, followed by Antonio Serrano of Spain in 8:03.80. Javier Arques of Spain, won the 150-metre event in 15.30, followed by his countrymen Angel Heras in 15.30 and Manuel Moreno in 15.50.

Robson may miss Rous Cup match

LONDON (R) — England captain Bryan Robson may miss Tuesday's Rous Cup game against Colombia, the last home match the side will play before the European Soccer Championship finals in West Germany. Robson strained his back during Saturday's 1-0 victory over Scotland and England manager Bobby Robson said Sunday he would not take any risks with the player's fitness. Striker Peter Beardsley and midfielder Neil Webb will also have to pass fitness tests, and Robson plans to run a check on Derby central defender Mark Wright who was not considered Saturday because of a thigh strain.

Leverkusen experiences bitter loss of league season

BONN (R) — Bayer Leverkusen, who performed miracles this week to overturn a three-goal deficit in the UEFA Cup final, threw away a similar lead against deposited champions Bayern Munich on the last day of the league season Saturday.

Leverkusen, whose epic recovery against Spain's Espanol Wednesday brought them the first trophy in the club's 84-year history, demolished the Bavarian defence with three goals in the first 18 minutes but eventually went down 4-3.

Christian Hausmann put them ahead three minutes after the kick-off. Then Brazilian striker Tita, one of the UEFA Cup heroes, took them two up after 10, followed eight minutes later by a goal from Falko Goetz.

But Bayern, who lost the title to Werder Bremen this month, needed a win to secure second place, and came back quickly. Lothar Matthaus, playing his last game before moving to Italy, began the fightback with a goal after 20 minutes.

With a Leverkusen running out of steam, goals from Helmut Bayerschmidt and two from Jurgen Wegmann in the closing minutes gave Bayern victory.

Champions Werder Bremen ended the season on a strong note, destroying relegated Schalke 4-1 away, with Frank Ordenewitz and Karl-Heinz Riedle netting two each.

Cologne had to settle for third spot overall despite cruising to an impressive 3-0 win at Hanover.

With Schalke and FC Homburg certain to go down, the only question outstanding was who would go into next month's play-offs between the first division's third-from-bottom club and the third from top in the second division.

Kaiserslautern were behind twice at home to Borussia Moenchengladbach but staged a remarkable recovery, running out 5-2 victors. Waldhof Mannheim achieved a creditable draw at Stuttgart but were forced into the play-offs when Karlsruhe's Arno Glesius equalised for his side with three minutes to go against Eintracht Frankfurt.

With two rounds still to be played in the second division, Stuttgart Kickers have already assured themselves of first division opponents next season, but several clubs are still vying for the remaining one promotion and one play-off place.

Smith urges better drug testing

SAO PAULO, Brazil (R) — American sprinter Calvin Smith said Saturday many top athletes use drugs and urged athletics officials to introduce more comprehensive testing.

The former 100 metres world record holder, in Sao Paulo for an international track and field meeting Sunday, told a press conference that even though he could not prove it, he was aware that many top athletes used drugs.

"Perhaps the method of drug testing is not being done properly. Something must definitely be done to protect the good athletes who are not on drugs," he said.

He said organisers should consider testing the top three placed competitors as a matter of course at major meetings.

"This should become a routine and it would protect the good athletes who are not on drugs," he said.

"The problem is that some of the best athletes are on drugs. No one would listen to the less famous ones, because for the general public and the organisers of major meetings, it is imperative to have all the top athletes," he said.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Lakers beat Jazz in semifinal series

INGLEWOOD, California (AP) — As far as Los Angeles coach Pat Riley is concerned, the Lakers may have cleared their biggest hurdle in trying to repeat as National Basketball Association (NBA) champions.

The Lakers, trying to become the first team in 20 years to win consecutive NBA titles, beat the upstart Utah Jazz 109-98 Saturday in game 7 of the Western Conference semifinal series.

"I don't think we'll play a better team in the playoffs, and that's no disrespect to the remaining teams," a relieved Riley said.

"They (the Jazz) are well-coached and they have three of the best players in the league in (John) Stockton, (Karl) Malone and (Thurl) Bailey."

The Lakers now face Dallas in the Western Conference finals, with the first game of the best-of-seven series scheduled for Monday night at the forum. The series winner will meet the Eastern Conference champion for the NBA title.

Although Stockton, with 29 points and 20 assists, and Malone, with 31 points and 14 rebounds, played superbly for Utah in game 7, Riley said Magic Johnson, with 23 points, 16 assists and nine rebounds, made the difference for the Lakers.

"Magic dug down deep, played a hard 40 minutes," Riley said. "...that why he makes what he makes (\$2.5 million a year), he has to deliver."

Byron Scott led the Lakers with 29 points. The Lakers had been humbled 108-80 in game 6 Thursday in Salt Lake City, but they came back with a well-balanced performance for a convincing victory in the deciding game.

James Worthy had 23 points and four steals for Los Angeles; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar added 11 points and blocked four shots (two more than Utah centre Mark Eaton, and the Lakers had just 11 turnovers to 15 for the Jazz).

Utah coach Frank Layden said he told his players afterward that they should be proud.

"I thought we played as good as we could," he said. "Every time we got in a hole, we fought our way back."

Although the Lakers won the series, Stockton finished with a couple of NBA playoff records. His 115 assists topped Johnson's previous mark of 95, set in 1984; and his 28 steals bettered the playoff mark of 27 set by Philadelphia's Maurice Cheeks in 1979.

Tied 15-15 midway through the opening quarter, the Lakers reeled off 11 straight points over the next two minutes for a 26-15 lead. The Jazz never caught them after that, although Utah did close to within 59-56 two minutes into the third period before the Lakers scored eight consecutive points to take command.

Los Angeles led 87-85 heading into the final period after being in front 57-51 at halftime and 32-27 at the end of the first quarter. The Lakers, who had a 62-20 regular-season record, the league's best, had breezed through the opening round of the playoffs with three straight victories over San Antonio. The Jazz, 47-35, advanced by beating Portland in four games.

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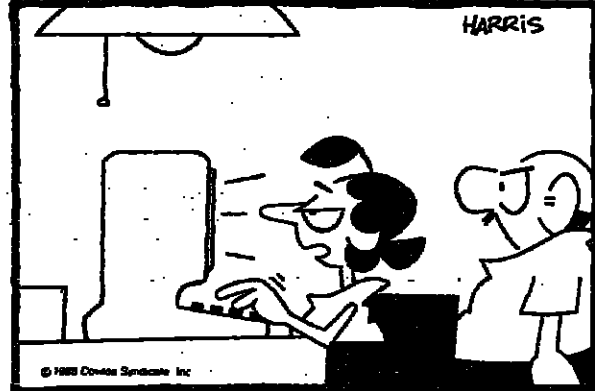
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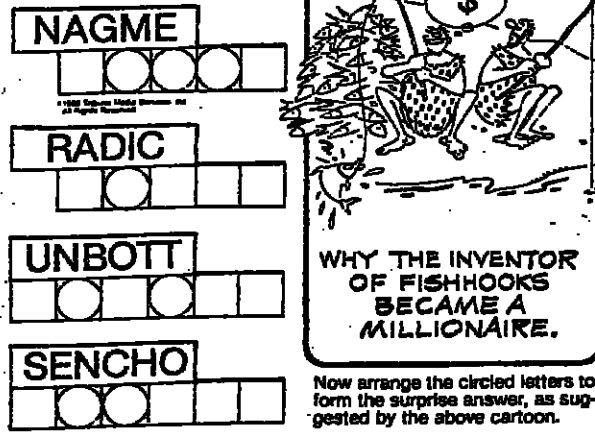
By Harris



"Your kissing is down 12%, your hugging is down 18%, your belching is up 23%..."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



WHY THE INVENTOR OF FISHHOOKS BECAME A MILLIONAIRE.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: THEY "REALLY" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PITY CHIDE LAWFUL NOODLE
Answer: Why the cat want to see the vet - HE WAS "FEELING" LOW (feeling low)

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by William Canine



- ACROSS
- Vendetta
 - Fr. revolutionary
 - Decade
 - Hindu god
 - Discomfited
 - Utility
 - Customer
 - Fleur-de-lis
 - Thick-headed
 - Festive
 - Second
 - Change in court
 - Warnings
 - Ember
 - Presure
 - Ancient kingdom
 - Duration
 - Rise, sea
 - "Bovary"
 - Gen. Arnold of
 - Whit
 - March family
 - chronicle
 - Place for experiments
 - Inception
 - Shades
 - Para
 - Sports org.
 - Residue
 - Gridiron term
 - Algonquian
 - Overcome by office
 - Cupid
 - "The World According to"
 - Vigilant
 - "Camera"
 - Great Lakes port
 - Pardon
 - Disparagement
 - Prodigious
 - Nurse Cavell
 - Rochester's Jane
- DOWN
- Reprover
 - Natty
 - Cuckoo
 - Pe's land
 - Salik
 - Flm. lake
 - Mature
 - Singular
 - Solo
 - Was in debt
 - Revus part
 - Fr. friend

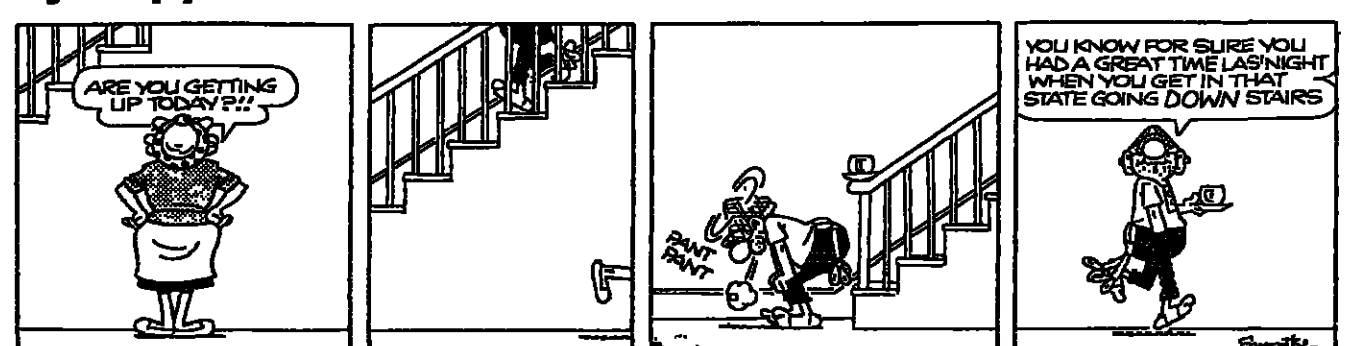
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Pakistan vows to abide by Geneva Afghan agreements

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Prime Minister Muhammad Khan Junejo Sunday denied Soviet and Afghan charges that Pakistan had violated the U.N.-mediated accords on Afghanistan.

He made the statement to reporters before leaving for Peking, where he will also visit South Korea and the Philippines.

On Friday, Soviet officials asked the Afghan government to urge Pakistan to stop supplying arms to Afghan rebels with arms in violation of the agreements reached in Geneva last month.

"We respect the Geneva accords... and will take the steps necessary to implement them," Junejo said when asked about the charges.

He said he would use his overstay in Peking to discuss the Geneva situation following the new accords, under which the Soviet Union began withdrawing its 115,000 troops from Afghanistan last week.

Islamabad and Kabul are committed by the accords not to interfere in each other's internal affairs.

China and Pakistan both have backed the Afghan rebels, who are also supported by Western Arab countries.

Junejo is due to meet Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng and Communist Party Chief Zhao Ziyang.

Islamic officials said.

Pakistani President Moham-

mad Zia Ul Haq is due to begin an eight-day visit to China May 30.

Junejo will stay in Hong Kong Monday and visit South Korea from May 24 to 27 and the Philippines from May 27 to 29.

Kabul lodged a second complaint about the violation of the Geneva accords to United Nations observers Thursday.

"The shipping of arms and ammunition from Pakistan into the territory of the republic of Afghanistan is an obvious violation of the Geneva agreements," a Soviet Foreign Ministry statement Friday said.

Pakistan plays host to an estimated three million Afghan refugees and the main Mujahideen groups fighting the Kabul government.

Mujahideen plans

The main Pakistan-based Mujahideen alliance said Saturday its field commanders from the eastern Afghan province of Nangarhar had chalked out a programme of attack on the provincial capital of Jalalabad.

The Soviet pullout was led by 1,300 troops who left Jalalabad April 14.

The guerrillas say they want to "liberate" an important area of Afghanistan to set up their proposed government there.

The alliance said in a statement issued in the north-western Pakistan town of Peshawar that it would soon send delegations to foreign countries to introduce the policies and programmes of the proposed government.

Soviets continue pullout

A second Soviet military unit withdrawing from Afghanistan arrived back in the border town of Termez Saturday, the TASS news agency said.

The motorised rifle unit was greeted by relatives and friends, city officials and youth delegations from several Soviet republics, TASS said.

They continued on to an unspecified new base after resting briefly in the border town, located in the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan.

The first 1,300 soldiers to leave, a motorised rifle division that had been stationed in Jalalabad, crossed the border early Wednesday. They were greeted by honking horns, banners and a rally attended by Afghanistan's defence minister.

TASS said the unit that arrived home Saturday was one of the first sent to Afghanistan, and that during its term it had accompanied 679 shipments of goods for Afghan civilians. TASS did not say where it had been based.



A French policeman searches a vehicle in New Caledonia in a stepped-up security drive

French troops reportedly planned using napalm against Kanak rebels

PARIS (AP) — The planners of the attack that freed 23 hostages held by New Caledonian separatists in a Pacific island cave considered using napalm and laser-guided bombs, the newspaper Le Monde reported Saturday.

Le Monde published what it said were extensive excerpts from the report written by Philippe Legorjus, head of France's anti-terrorist squad who led the assault May 5. Two French soldiers and 19 Melanesian militants were killed in the fighting. Two other militants later died.

In the report, as quoted by Le Monde, Legorjus was critical of Bernard Pons, then overseas territories minister in the conservative government of Jacques Chirac, and other senior officials for rejecting negotiations in favour of dangerous military plans.

The report said plans to use napalm and a laser-guided 250-kilogramme bomb were put aside

only because the attackers were not certain where the cave was.

The hostages, most of them French gendarmes, were seized in two groups April 22 and 27. The separatists were demanding appointment of a mediator to discuss independence for New Caledonia, a French island territory east of Australia.

Besides the 21 men held in the cave, the government said it considered Legorjus and an assistant prosecutor to be hostages as well for a total of 23, even though the other two were allowed to go back and forth as negotiators.

Legorjus ultimately participated in the planning and execution of the assault that freed the hostages unharmed.

In the report, as published by Le Monde, Legorjus made a peaceful solution was made more difficult by the "national political context," an apparent reference

to the imminent May 8 presidential election which Chirac ultimately lost to Socialist incumbent Francois Mitterrand.

At the time of the assault, it was seen as a boost to Chirac's election prospects. Mitterrand had been urging negotiations with the hostage-takers, although his aides say he ultimately gave his approval for the attack.

Chirac, Pons and all other government ministers resigned after the election and have been replaced by the Socialist-led government of Premier Michel Rocard.

Rocard issued a statement Saturday afternoon saying he was "determined to bring to light" the truth about the attack.

Pons and other French officials have denied reports that some of the separatists were killed after being captured alive in the assault.

1 killed, 35 hurt in Punjab blast

AMRITSAR (R) — Sikh extremists bombed a railway station in Punjab Sunday, killing one of thousands of Hindu migrant labourers fleeing the state in fear of attacks on them.

Police said 35 people, including migrant labourers, were hurt in the blast in the industrial city of Ludhiana at about 10.20 a.m. (0450 GMT). The dead man was waiting to buy a ticket home, witnesses said.

Ludhiana police, who revised an earlier death toll of four given by police in the state capital Chandigarh, said two people were seriously wounded.

The toll would have been higher if the bomb, planted beside a second class ticket counter, had gone off while a crowd of about 50 people were watching a serial of a Hindu epic on a nearby television set, they said.

The bomb went off just after the programme ended and the crowd had dispersed, police added.

On Saturday, Punjab Police chief K.P.S. Gill ordered his men to protect migrant labourers in a bid to stop them from fleeing home to other states in fear of attacks by Sikh extremists, who are fighting to set up a separate state in Punjab called Khalistan (Land of the pure).

Nearly 60 migrant labourers have been killed in the past week, part of the extremists' strategy to frighten Hindus out of Punjab, where Sikhs are barely in majority.

The migrant labourers are essential to the Punjab economy and every year some 800,000 of them come looking for work to the prosperous agricultural state.

Nearly 4,000 migrant labourers at a canal project in Punjab left for their homes after 30 of their colleagues were shot dead Wednesday, hours after security forces ended a siege of the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar.

In the Golden Temple, priests resumed Sunday the daily rituals of hymn singing and scripture recitations.

Beckett publishes first time in seven years

PARIS (R) — A new work by 82-year-old author Samuel Beckett, rare for a man who maintains he has nothing to say in an empty and meaningless world, was published in France Thursday. "Image," a 1,200-word single sentence, Beckett's slimmest volume to date, is, however, not new. The last line of the 10-page book reveals it was written in the 1950s. Literary sources said Beckett had been persuaded by Paris publisher Jerome Lindon to dust off the work, which had been published once before, in 1959, in a British quarterly. Beckett, who lives as a recluse in central Paris where he first settled 60 years ago, has been silent since 1981. His work from the 1960s onwards became increasingly terse as he pursued his vision that the world is meaningless and that his writing should logically consist of nothingness, or blank pages. "Image" resurrects one of Beckett's most-used symbols, mud, which is a variation on metaphors used in other plays — characters buried up to their necks in sand or deserted stages — to show the nothingness enveloping the world. The brief story describes a woman, a dog washing its genitals, the countryside and a packet of sandwiches before ending with the woman leaving and the protagonist removing his tongue from the mud.

Woman has mystery collision with plane

GLASGOW (R) — A woman driving along a stretch of Scottish highlands was startled when a helicopter swooped down from the sky and scraped the roof of her car. Moira Taylor, whose car was badly scratched, said Friday that she only saw the helicopter as it spiralled away again and at first thought her engine had blown up. Police said they were checking to see if the unidentified helicopter was taking part in a military exercise at the time of the accident earlier this month. Taylor dismissed her husband's suggestion that the culprit was a big bird. "I told him I wish it had been," she said.

'Maniacs offer hot stuff'

LONDON (R) — A new travel club called "Holidays for Maniacs" is offering trips to war zones around the world. Insurance is not included. The club, which charges £100 (£185) for membership, will offer accommodation and travel to hot spots in Central America and the Gulf when it starts business next week, tour coordinator Helen Helder said Friday. A Middle East tour might include stops in Iraq, the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Beirut, where the company is negotiating with a hotel in the mountains overlooking the Lebanese capital. The company is the idea of Steve Pearce, a 25-year-old businessman whose independent record label "Some Bizarre Records" recently scored a cult hit with the West German band Einsturzende Neubauten (new collapsing buildings). The instruments they favour include industrial chainsaws and pneumatic drills.

Michael Jackson performs impossible feat

ROME (AP) — Pop superstar Michael Jackson kept Italy's show business stars waiting for 90 minutes at the start of a two-month-long foreign concert tour. But when he arrived at the U.S. embassy residence, he managed to engineer a near-impossible feat: Getting longtime rival Italian actresses Sophia Loren and Gina Lollobrigida to pose in the same picture with him. The American singer flew into Rome with an entourage of 90 people. The Villa Taverna, the 19th-century residence of U.S. Ambassador Maxwell Rabb, was filled with stars of the Italian entertainment industry for a reception in Jackson's honour. Jackson was immediately embraced by Loren as he entered the residence. She later said Jackson was "an old friend." In another room Lollobrigida, a star of the 1950s who is now a photographer, was holding court with Italian fashion designers Valentino and Renato Balestra. The two actresses later came together in the same room and posed for photos with Jackson. Loren's rivalry with Lollobrigida has been the delight of Italy's pulp press for the past three decades, and they have rarely appeared together in public.

J.S.-Philippines base talks reportedly near collapse

MANILA (AP) — Talks between United States and the Philippines on the future of U.S. military bases are near collapse because of wide differences between the two sides, Manila newspapers report.

J.S. officials declined comment on the reports, which started Saturday and Sunday in major dailies. The two governments last month began reviewing the current agreement under which the United States maintains six installations here, including Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Base.

Manila newspapers quoted an unnamed "ranking Filipino diplomat" as saying the two sides were "far apart" on virtually every issue, including compensation,

criminal jurisdiction and security. The newspapers quoted the source as saying the Philippine government would rather break off the talks "than be criticised later for succumbing to the Americans."

He accused the U.S. panel, led by Ambassador Nicholas Platt, of "stonewalling" on virtually every issue.

U.S. diplomats here have privately complained that the Philippine panel violated an understanding by leaking details on the negotiations, which began April 5.

The current talks cover only the status of the bases through 1991, when the current agreement expires. However, the outcome is expected to determine

whether Manila allows the bases to remain after 1991.

Under the current constitution, any extension must be provided for in a formal treaty approved by two-thirds of the 23-member senate, where anti-bases sentiment is strong.

President Corason Aquino has agreed to honour the current agreement but refuses to say whether she would support an extension. Her term expires in 1992 and she has ruled out seeking re-election.

Resentment of foreign — particularly American — influence has run deep in Philippine society for generations. In 1898, the United States helped Filipino insurgents defeat Spanish rulers, then turned against them and took over the country after a two-year guerrilla war.

In 1946, the United States granted independence to the Philippines but forced the new government to accept a trade measure under which American firms had equal rights with Filipino companies to draw from the nation's resources.

U.S. support for Marcos, including acquiescence of his 1972 declaration of martial law, revived anti-American sentiment in the generation that now wields considerable influence over the nation's government and mass media.

As an example, a new musical, written by foreign secretary Raul Manglapus, opens Friday at a Manila theatre, depicting a Filipino view of historical relations with the United States.

Columnist Hilario Henares, writing in the Philippine Daily Inquirer, suggested American diplomats attend the musical, entitled "Yanky-Panky," to see "the hypocrisy, the deceit, the betrayal, the vicious greed, the love-hate that characterise Philippine-American relations today."

Report says 647 persons missing in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (AP) — An independent newspaper claimed Sunday that as many as 647 cases of missing people have been reported to police in Sri Lanka since March and April.

The Sunday Lankadeepa, a Sinhalese-language newspaper, said it based its report on the number of complaints of missing people filed by relatives at police headquarters in Colombo, the island's capital.

The report did not say who was possible or identify which ethnic group was affected by the disappearances — Sinhalese, Tamil or Muslim.

In March this year, 345 people have disappeared and in April, 302 more, according to records maintained at police headquarters, the newspaper said. It also said the two-month total of 647 was the highest on record.

The newspaper said reports of missing people were linked to Sri Lanka's turbulent politics, but also to police headquarters' refusal to comment.

In the past, National Security Minister Lalith Atalathumudali said that if individuals or organisations, local and foreign, took up the issue of missing people in Sri Lanka courts, his government would be prepared to investigate.

But he said allegations of disappearances based on hearsay or lack of credibility. The Civil Rights Movement (CRM) of Sri Lanka, however, has been urging the government to let the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) search for the missing people. Desmond Fernando, CRM secretary, said in a statement Friday the "scenario of deaths in today, disappearances and killings, while receding in the north-east, has now unfolded in the

Arab Americans show political strength in California

WASHINGTON (I.T.) — Arab Americans established themselves as a political force in the California Democratic Party earlier this month. They won significant victories in California's Democratic Party delegate selection caucuses and participated in a dramatic battle over the party's Middle East policy.

In San Jose on April 30, the state party's executive committee, while voting down a resolution supporting Palestinian statehood, passed an alternative resolution that represents a significant advance over current party policy. The resolution, drafted by the Arab American Democratic Clubs of California, was submitted by California Democratic Council President Bob Farren.

At the meeting, Arab American Democratic Federation Chairman John Zogby spoke in support of the resolution, as did several other Arab American activists invited to speak as experts on the issue.

The Arab American resolution read: "The U.S. should help end the impasse in the Middle East. We

support a policy which supports the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and statehood in the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and by calling for an international peace conference to negotiate all outstanding issues in the Arab-Israeli conflict."

The vote on this resolution came after a two-month battle. The resolution was first submitted in March to the California Democratic Council (CDC), the largest caucus of California Democrats, where it passed, 70 to 30 per cent. It then went to the party's state convention, held March 18-20. There, 266 official party delegates signed petitions in support of the resolution, only to see it tabled in a highly controversial move by party chairman Peter D. Kelley. It was Kelley who recommended delaying debate until the April 30 meeting of the executive committee, a meeting attended by only a minority of committee members.

While Arab Americans lost the vote in San Jose, they won the fight for a more open debate on Palestinian rights within the party

and promised to reintroduce the statehood resolution at the next California Democratic Party convention, scheduled for January 1989.

Final resolution

The resolution was finally passed on April 30 reads:

"Whereas, a way must be found to both assure the security of the state of Israel and meet the aspirations of the Palestinian Arabs to control their own fate, and

"Whereas, only solutions derived by direct negotiations of the parties concerned will reverse the tragic cycle for the Israeli and Arab peoples,

"Therefore be it resolved, that the California Democratic Party supports the United States government taking a firm and active role in bringing the involved parties to direct negotiations on the basis of mutual recognition of the parties' existence and needs."

Following the vote, an executive committee member and former head of the San Francisco Democratic Central Committee, Agar Jaicks, stated that he supported the alternative resolution

because it meant that Israelis and Palestinians would be able to negotiate, that Yasser Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would be able to "sit down with Israelis and start to talk," and that the Palestinians have control of their own lives.

Jaicks was one of 18 prominent California Democrats, including Senator Alan Cranston and representatives Barbara Boxer, Tom Lantos, and Nancy Pelosi (who drafted the resolution), who wrote a letter to executive committee members urging them to support the alternative resolution.

Salam Al Marayati, a field organiser for the Arab-American Institute (AAI) and spokesman for the Muslim Political Action Committee (MPAC) said: "Today was a victory for us, since we wanted, and received, a debate on Palestinian human rights. But we lost an historic opportunity to balance Democratic Party policy and achieve permanent peace in the Middle East."

Visible presence

Arab American Democrats

were also highly visible in California's democratic caucuses held May 1. While Arab Americans make up less than five per cent of the state's population, Arab American candidates captured six first place slots (out of 45) as Jesse Jackson delegates. Another four Arab Americans came in second.

Many of those running were doing so for the first time and expressed surprise — and delight — at how simple the process is. "I was stunned at how much we can do when we get organised!" said Amal Barkouki, a psychologist and fourth place finisher in the 12th district. "I wanted to be active... I was even interviewed by the newspaper and they wanted my opinion," said Lena Sarraf, a first-time runner and overall winner from the twenty-second congressional district.

Yousef Haddad, a first place finisher in the 26th district, said, "As an Arab, I wanted my voice to be heard... and wanted to run as a Jackson delegate. Not only is he the closest candidate to Arab and Palestinian issues, but he is for education and national health care, and against drugs." Sammie Odeh of Orange

County also placed first. Odeh is the brother of Alex Odeh, a Palestinian-American activist who was brutally murdered in 1985. "Before Alex's killing, I left everything to him and supported him," said Odeh. "But like it or not, we have to start trying to make a difference... anyone who lives in a society has to expand his horizons and give something back to that society that has provided opportunities for achievement... It doesn't take an awful lot to be represented — a little work can go a long way." Carol Al Shaleh, Liela Calnan, and Nazeer Ahmad also finished first in their congressional districts.

Coordinating this year's Arab American delegate drive were AAI field organisers Alia Samed-Salameh and Carol Al Shaleh in northern California, and Salam Al Marayati and Melisse Bonziane in Los Angeles. Arab American political activity in California has increased dramatically over the last year and there are now six Arab American Democratic and three Republican clubs in California.

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